

Exceptions to the TU Student Travel Policy

Approved by the Provost Office 10.19.2020

TU sets guidelines about how, when and where students may study abroad and considers issues of terrorism, war, disease, and other risks to travelers. Accordingly, TU observes the following policy: If the US Department of State or the Centers for Disease Control issue a **Travel Advisory level 3 or 4** for a particular country or region within a country, TU will suspend approval of any program or individual study abroad by TU students in that country as long as the advisory is in effect, unless an application for a waiver of that policy is approved.

Students may request a waiver to this policy by submitting an appeal in writing to the Travel Risk Assessment Committee. The Travel Risk Assessment Committee will be composed of Director of the CGE, Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives and Faculty Affairs, Provost, Chief Compliance Officer, and Chair of the Campus Crisis Response Team. Additional faculty or staff expertise in the proposed country, region, or project will review the appeals and participate in the committee as needed. Other consultants will be added as necessary.

Written appeals to a country with a travel warning must address the following:

- The student must offer a compelling academic rationale for study in the selected country, outlining how study in only that country will advance her/his academic goals and aid her/him in the pursuit of her/his TU degree, and detailing why a study program in another country will not advance adequately the academic goals s/he has outlined.
- The student must articulate what steps s/he has taken to inform her/himself of the safety and security risks that study in the selected country may pose and demonstrate that s/he has considered such risks in a thoughtful and deliberative manner.
- The student must demonstrate that s/he has read and understands the current U.S. Department of State Travel Warning for the selected country.

Specific instructions regarding the appeal are appended to this policy. If the committee denies a student's appeal, that denial shall be final and shall not be reconsidered.

If the student is already in the district or country when the U.S. State Department issues a travel advisory that prohibits, forbids or recommends deferral of all but essential travel to a particular district or country is issued, the Travel Risk Assessment Committee shall make a recommendation to Provost as to whether the student shall be required to return to the U.S. The Provost will make the final determination.

The University of Tulsa
Appeal for student waiver of TU policy on study in country with a
US State Department Travel Advisory level 3-4

Please provide a complete response to the following questions for assessing the safety and security of your proposed travel:

1. Briefly summarize your proposed travel and related project, including the location, dates of the program, affiliated university or organization, proposed study or research abroad.
2. The US State Department website www.travel.state.gov lists country-specific Travel Advisories for US citizens. Please *summarize* (do not copy/paste) the current State Department Travel Advisory for your location.
3. With regard to the current State Department Travel Advisory and your own health/safety/security assessment of the proposed location, what risks might you encounter while at the proposed site?
4. Describe your level of familiarity with the proposed international location.
5. Discuss the academic necessity and appropriateness of the proposed study abroad.
6. Discuss your previous experience abroad or other relevant experience.
7. What specific steps will you take to mitigate these risks? Be as specific and detailed as possible.
8. Discuss the emergency preparedness and the health and safety procedures of the institution/organization directing your study or research abroad.
9. Why do you think the university should approve your application to study or conduct research in a country where there is a travel advisory level 3 or 4?