Parents and Guardians

The Office of International Affairs is committed to providing a safe, healthy and productive learning experience for every Ohio State student pursuing an educational experience abroad. Guidance is provided at every stage of the study abroad process, including myriad opportunities for additional information and advising.

In order to answer any questions he or she may have about the process, it is highly recommended that your student attend a Getting Started session. Here, he or she will learn about the many ways to study abroad at Ohio State, as well as how to select and fund a study abroad program. Once your student has chosen a program, attending the appropriate Program Information session will answer any additional questions they may have.

The Office of International Affairs works closely with other university offices, units and departments to ensure that your student's academic progress continues uninterrupted. Students of every major can study abroad to fulfill major, minor or general education requirements, and an international education experience will complement every field of study.

The Office of International Affairs implements the following protocol to maintain the health and safety of all Ohio State students studying abroad:

- Every Ohio State student who is a U.S. citizen and traveling internationally to study, intern, research and/or study independently is required to register with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate through the U.S. Department of State's Smart Traveler Registration Program. Registration will make a student's presence and whereabouts known should it be necessary to contact them in an emergency.
- All Ohio State students traveling abroad for academic purposes must be enrolled in international supplemental insurance, providing not only health insurance, but coverage for emergency assistance, evacuation and repatriation.
- Students are provided with detailed information on how to
schedule an international travel consultation, ensure they receive all necessary vaccinations and travel abroad with any necessary prescription medications.

- The Office of International Affairs works with the Office of Disability Services to meet the needs of students with disabilities, accommodating them as fully as possible as they prepare to study abroad.

- The Office of International Affairs prepares students for both medical and non-medical emergencies. In addition to providing them with a full array of emergency contacts before their departure, OIA also provides all students studying abroad with The Ohio State University's 24-hour emergency phone number – +1 (614) 292-6677 – and OIA staff members are available by telephone and email 24 hours a day as well to address student concerns while abroad.

- All Ohio State students studying abroad are provided with a thorough set of safety guidelines, covering topics including, but not limited to, volatile political situations, sexual harassment, protection of possessions and safe travel while abroad. Students are also reminded that, while abroad, they remain held to The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct, further encouraging safe and responsible actions while overseas.

- Students studying abroad are asked to fill out a Study Abroad Health form, listing any allergies and physical and mental health conditions that may affect a study abroad experience. It is critical that OIA receives this information, as for many chronic or cyclical conditions, changes in diet and schedule can trigger an acute episode. Information shared on a Health Form with is strictly confidential, and assists OIA in ensuring students receive proper services and care while abroad.