Short-term Spring and Summer Programs

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) is closely monitoring flight delays, disruptions and cancellations associated with volcanic ash from Eyjafjallajökull in Iceland. European airports are now fully operational and OIA does not anticipate that the volcano will cause disruption to short-term spring and summer programs. In the unlikely event that Eyjafjallajökull does erupt again, the following information will help prepare you for any delays/cancellations that you may experience.

Preparedness for Delays/Cancellation

Students and Resident Directors should pack a carry-on bag with delays in mind. Pack several days worth of prescription medications, essential toiletries (not to exceed 3oz. per liquid container), a change of clothes, water bottle (empty until clearing security), snacks, and reading material.

It is also important to have a good communications plan in place.

- Students who are not on a group flight should communicate delays to family members, OIA, their host institution and/or their Resident Director, if applicable
- Resident Directors on a group flight – or who hear from students who are delayed on individual flights – should provide updates to their OIA Study Abroad Coordinator as appropriate

Ohio State and OIA have no authority over airlines regarding delays or cancelled flights. Students should remain calm and follow all instructions provided by airline personnel.

Costs Related to Delays/Cancellations

Individual Flights – Students who are on individual (non-group) flights are responsible for the costs related to airline delays or cancellations.

Group Flights – Costs associated with airline delays and cancellations for programs that have group flights arranged by OIA will be managed on a case-by-case basis.

OSU Sponsored Programs – In the unlikely event that a program is cancelled due to severe travel delays caused by volcanic ash, OIA will refund students’ program fees (OSU-sponsored programs) and will make every effort to work with faculty and departments to arrange suitable alternatives to complete the academic work.

Co-Sponsored Programs – Students participating in co-sponsored programs should contact the program provider for information about their refund policy.

Please note that volcanic ash is considered a weather-related delay or an “act of God,” so most travel insurance policies do not cover costs associated with this type of occurrence.