

## New Program Safety Screening

1. **Language Barriers:** If your host country is not primarily English-speaking, explain how language barriers will be addressed (i.e. level of language proficiency of participant/s, accompanying translator, etc.)?
2. **Group Leader/s Leadership Experience:** Describe the Group Leader(s)' leadership experience (i.e., experience leading student travelers in a domestic context, international context, experience navigating in new cultures, responding to conflict/emergencies, receiving first aid training, etc.).
3. **Group Leader Previous Travel:** List previous international travel destinations and estimated time spent in each location, and (2) list any experience in specific destinations listed on this itinerary.
4. **Adherence to Group Leader Responsibilities:** Will you adhere to the group leader responsibilities as outlined in the [SPG 601.31 International Travel Policy](#) and on [Global Michigan](#), including:
  - Obtaining approval from Global Engagement, the relevant dean, department chair, and discipline chair.
  - Following best practices for: health, safety, and security planning; pre-departure orientation; on-site activities; crisis management, and post-trip review.
  - Following any additional unit-level guidance or requirements for travel. Requirements may include signing and adhering to any documents detailing program leader responsibilities.
  - Supporting students to the best of their ability in the event of a crisis situation and alerting U-M of a crisis by following the [General Emergency Protocols for U-M International Travelers](#).
  - Adhering to the sponsoring unit directions when performing duties in the official capacity as a program leader.
5. **Public Health Requirements to Enter your Destination Country/s:** What are the public health requirements, if any, needed to enter your destination country/s? What is your plan to meet these requirements? These could include:
  - Providing a specific test result for an infectious disease
  - Providing proof of vaccination (e.g., Yellow Fever, COVID-19, etc.)
  - Completing a specific health questionnaire
  - Downloading an app
  - Testing before or upon arrival

### Resources:

- The "Entry, Exit and Visa Requirements" section of the [U.S. Department of State Country Information](#)
  - [CDC Travelers' Health](#) page
6. **On-Site Support Resources:** Describe on-site health, safety, and security support resources and services provided by your in-country partner, collaborator, on-site host, or others, if applicable.

Examples of support may include:

- On-site orientation or familiarization tour of the area
- Accompaniment of staff or translator
- Recommendations on selecting safe housing
- Transportation
- Overview of public health/emergency support protocols
- After-hours emergency number and or support
- Assistance with security quarantine/isolation space if necessary.

Resources:

- [“Early Stages of Planning”](#) on Global Michigan
- [Developing an NGO Partner Profile](#)
- [Safety Considerations for Independent Study & Field Research Abroad](#)

7. **Planned Housing Accommodations:** For your housing accommodation in each destination (even for brief 1-2 days stays) on your U-M related travel itinerary, provide EACH of the following:

1. Name of housing accommodations OR your intended housing plan
2. A brief overview of the intended housing accommodations (hotel, hostel, host family, apartment, campsite on-campus dorms, etc.)
3. Indicate whether students will have a private room or will be living with roommates
4. Explain how the accommodations were/will be chosen and/or vetted for safety and security.

Resources:

- Tips on selecting safe housing can be found in the [Early Stages of Planning section on Global Michigan](#)
- [OSAC Hotels: The Inns and Outs](#) report

8. **Local 911 Equivalent:** Have you identified the city/country 911 Emergency Equivalent Number for Police, Fire, and Ambulance support? (See the “Safety & Security” section of your travel destination’s [Country Information](#) page.)

9. **Medical Facility:** Are there medical facilities available not more than 1 hour away for each of your intended destinations?

10. **CDC Consultation:** Have you consulted the [CDC's](#) recommendations for vaccinations for each destination on your itinerary? Please note that [UHS Travel Health Services](#) can provide vaccinations, recommendations, and Travax reports for travelers.

11. **Group Management:** In terms of group management, (1) describe the portions of the experience where the group participants could be separated, even if unexpectedly, and (2) list strategies that will be in place to ensure participant safety (e.g. accompaniment of on-site partners, participants will not be traveling at night, participants will always be with a buddy, participants are briefed on places to avoid, participants are required to check-in with the group leaders at certain times, etc.).

12. **In-Country Communication Within Group:** Specify the in-country communication plans (1) between the group leader and the group members, (2) with your local contacts / hosts, and (3) in the event of an emergency.

If the group anticipates being away from regular email or phone contact, or if cellular service becomes unavailable (due to political unrest or a natural disaster), describe how you will overcome such challenges.

13. **Transportation:** Describe all types of transportation the participants plan to use to and from in-country airport/s, between housing and work/study site(s), between cities or other locations in your travel itinerary, etc. These could include taxis, rideshares, chartered vehicles, public buses or trains, walking, etc.
14. **Drivers:** Will the group leader be driving students during any portion of the program? If so, group leaders must follow the [Guidance for Driving U-M Students Abroad](#).
15. **Risky Activities - Risk Assessment and Mitigation Strategy:** For your destination/s, 1) describe planned high-risk activities, such as high altitude activities, technical climbing, hiking in remote or precipitous areas, swimming, diving, boating, machinery operation, handling animals/poisonous plants/hazardous substances, etc., and 2) explain your strategies to avoid or mitigate these risks.

Resources include:

- [OSAC “Traveling in High Altitude”](#) and [“Drowning Prevention and Water Safety Abroad”](#)
- [U-M Environmental Health and Safety Field Research](#) “Information on Specific Hazards”