Links to Safety Abroad Resources from the U.S. Department of State

travel.state.gov

step.state.gov

studentsabroad.state.gov
Outline

• Why?
  • Duty of Care
  • The Forum on Education Abroad – Standard 8
  • Examples

• Who?
  • Health and Safety Team
  • Health and Safety Oversight Committee

• How?
  • Pro-active Risk Management
  • Crisis Response

• Tips + Best Practices
  • OSAC Membership
WHY
## Duty of Care

- The legal and moral obligation that requires an institution to take all reasonable and responsible actions to protect its human resource assets by mitigating risk.

- One of the principles that should guide us in our respective roles as we strive to support the international engagement mission of the university and manage risk.

- Most effective when done collaboratively between the traveler and those who arrange travel and assist with preparations creating a reciprocal duty of loyalty.
The Forum on Education Abroad – Standard 8

Health, Safety, Security, and Risk Management:

- We are called to prioritize health, safety, and security in program development, implementation, and management, conducting appropriate risk assessments for program sites and activities, maintaining written emergency plans and protocols, and identifying and leveraging relevant authorities, networks and resources.

- Staff are trained to anticipate and respond responsibly to student health, safety, or security issues; students are trained to responsibly manage their own health, safety, and security while abroad; and measures are in place for ongoing monitoring of and advising on health, safety, and security issues through a range of U.S. Department of State and other appropriate resources.

- We maintain appropriate kinds of insurance at recommended levels, operate in compliance with local laws, and follow best practices in reporting on critical incidents.
Because something will happen…

Paris – terrorist attacks
• MSU travelers in Paris + France
• Check in procedures activated
• Immediate advice regarding safety and travel disruptions
• Guidance for upcoming travel

Rome – mugging
• Student mugged, needed medical attention
• Wallet and ID cards stolen

Turkey – Ankara + Istanbul bombings
• 2 travelers in-country during Ankara bombing
• Check in procedures activated
• On-going monitoring + security advice
• Subsequent wide-scale protests impacted the entire country

Mexico – car accident
• Rear-ended in taxi en route to volunteer agency
• 4 students sustained minor injuries
WHO
Health and Safety Team

Former Structure

- DEAN OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND PROGRAMS
  - DIRECTOR OF STUDY ABROAD
    - COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
    - INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ANALYST
    - PROGRAM COORDINATORS

Current Structure

- DEAN OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND PROGRAMS
  - DIRECTOR OF STUDY ABROAD
    - COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
    - PROGRAM COORDINATORS
    - DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
    - INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COORDINATOR

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Health and Safety Oversight Committee

Responsibilities

- Oversee international risk and security issues for all MSU international travelers
- Prevent or minimize impact of risks affecting security, safety, and health of MSU international travelers
- Offer recommendation to Provost on approval for high risk travel
- Coordinate and review emergency assistance protocols and procedures
- Guide development, maintenance, and implementation of International Travelers Database
- And more…

Membership

- Chair (senior active or emeritus faculty member or official)
- Assoc. Provost Undergraduate Ed.
- Assoc. Provost Graduate Ed.
- Assoc. Provost Outreach/Engagement
- University Physician
- Director of Risk Management
- General Counsel
- Dean of International Studies and Programs
- Director of Study Abroad
- MSU Police
- VP Student Affairs and Services
- Director for International Health and Safety
HOW
Pro-Active Study Abroad
Risk Management

✓ Program Proposal Reviews + Policies
  • Especially for travel to high-risk destinations

✓ Established Program Policies
  • Examples: leaders must carry cell-phones, no alcohol misuse, Title IX compliance

✓ Health & Safety Team
✓ Oversight Committee
✓ Mandatory International Health Insurance
✓ Political Unrest + Natural Disaster Evacuation Insurance
✓ Student Handbook & Country-Specific Orientations
✓ Student Statement of Responsibility
✓ Required Pre-Departure Student Orientation
  • Online vs. In-Person

✓ Program Leader Handbooks & Required Emergency Response Training
✓ Specialized Program Leader Workshops
  • Example: “Responding to Mental Health Incidents Abroad”
✓ Behavioral Agreements (when appropriate...)
Crisis Response

Program Leader/Student*

911*

EMERGENCY

URGENT

On-Call Responder

HTH

Call 24/7 Int. Line +1-517-353-3784

Incidents

- HEALTH
- LEGAL
- CRIME
- NATURAL DISASTER
- CIVIL UNREST

Resources

- University Physician
- General Counsel
- HTH Insurance
- DPPS/FBI
- U.S. Embassy
- Office of Risk Mgmt

* Trained in Emergency Action Plan for immediate crisis response

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
TIPS
• Establish and advertise 24/7 Emergency Line

• Emphasize the local
  • Media sources, Consular messaging, on-site partners and providers

• Do not underestimate:
  • Road safety, water safety, alcohol-related issues, pickpockets, local laws, mental health
  • Leading cause of non-natural deaths among Americans abroad: motor vehicle accidents.

• OSAC Membership
  • Overseas Security Advisory Council (division of U.S. Department of State)
  • Access to Academic Working Group + Country Councils, RISC Analysts, Consular Offices, Daily Briefings, Annual Briefing
  • Free membership
  • www.osac.gov
Thank you!

Maureen Handrahan
Coordinator, International Health and Safety
Michigan State University
handraha@msu.edu
Study Abroad Safety

*UChicago Traveler & UChicago Centers Abroad*

Dan Spiess
Assistant Director, Postdoctoral Affairs & Career Development

spiess@uchicago.edu
Overview

• Emergency/Safety vs. Travel Experience
• Collaboration – area studies, Global Engagement, Study Abroad, Risk Management, International Affairs, Communications, etc.
• University-sponsored travel
• Required documents (passport, visa)
• International SOS
• State Department & travel warnings
• Safety
• Health and Insurance
• UChicago Traveler (travel registry)
• IT and Communication
• Global Centers
• Alumni clubs and database
UChicago Traveler

- Traveler.uchicago.edu
- For emergencies and travel information

Welcome, Daniel Spiess

A secure website to register international travel plans and contact information, UChicago Traveler allows the University to assist students, faculty, and staff overseas, including in emergencies or times of crisis. Register your University-affiliated travel and you are automatically enrolled in UChicago's International Travel Emergency Assistance Program.

Your Current and Upcoming Trips
You have no current or upcoming trips

Your Completed Trips

Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates
10/15/2014 - 10/21/2014
✓ Registered
Register a Trip

Personal Information
Before you tell us about your trip, please review your personal information and make any necessary updates.

Fields marked with an asterisk * are required.

First Name*  Middle Name  Last Name*
Daniel        Siess

Primary Affiliation*
Staff

Citizenship
- I am a U.S. citizen or have dual citizenship with the U.S.
- I am a legal permanent resident of the U.S.
- I am not a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident.

Passport Information
Name on Passport
First Name  Middle Name  Last Name
Daniel  Siess

Passport Number

Issuing Country
United States

Save and Continue
Register a Trip

Trip Name & Purpose of Travel

To help you reference your trip later, give it a name that's meaningful to you.

Trip Name (required)
China -- Beijing Center Event 2014

Purpose of Travel
Administrative Activities (development, recruiting, other staff travel)

Is this an officially organized university trip?
☐ No
☐ Yes

If yes, please enter name or code provided by program administrator:

Save and Continue
Add a Destination

Fields marked with an asterisk * are required.

Where are you going?

Country or Territory*

China

State, Province or Region

City or Nearest City

Beijing

When will you be there?

From*

11/12/2014

To*

11/18/2014

Local address at this destination, if available

UChicago Beijing Center

Sheraton Hotel, Beijing

example: hotel name, office location

How may we contact you at this destination?

Preferred Phone

+1-111-111-1111

Preferred Email

spless@uchicago.edu

If a non US number, please include country code.

This is a mobile phone.

Save and Continue
## Emergency Contacts

**Emergency Contact in the U.S.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relationship to you</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beth Niestat</td>
<td>Supervisor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-773-702-9018</td>
<td><a href="mailto:niestat@uchicago.edu">niestat@uchicago.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Emergency Contact Abroad, if applicable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relationship to you</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Smith</td>
<td>Center Administrator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+85-10-1111-1111</td>
<td><a href="mailto:smith@beijing.uchicago.edu">smith@beijing.uchicago.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If this is a non-U.S. phone, please include country code and area code.*

Save and Continue
Register a Trip

China -- Beijing Center Event 2014

You have successfully recorded this trip information on UChicago Traveler. You may return to this site at any time to make changes or additions to this information.

Go back to your Home page or Log Out.

Personal Information

Name: Daniel Spiess
Affiliation: staff
Citizenship: U.S. Citizen
Passport Name: Daniel Spiess
Passport Number: No Response
Issuing Country: United States

Trip Name & Purpose of Travel

Trip Name: China -- Beijing Center Event 2014
Purpose: Administrative Activities
Official Trip? No

Travel Information

Destination 1
Dear Daniel,

Thank you for registering your trip at UChicago Traveler!

China -- Beijing Center Event 2014
Destination 1: Beijing, China 11/12/2014-11/18/2014

Please remember that:
1. The information you just submitted may be edited at any time at http://traveler.uchicago.edu
2. You have been enrolled in the International Travel Emergency Assistance Program. Attached is your International SOS card. Please visit the ISOS website http://www.internationalssos.com for more information.**As this is not your primary medical insurance, it is recommended that you review your health insurance plan for international coverage details prior to your trip.
3. You may need a visa. Please check the following website: http://www.projectvisa.com
4. You may need immunizations or other medicines specific to your travels. You can learn more at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: http://www.cdc.gov
5. Immunizations can be provided by the UChicago Travel Clinic: http://www.uchospitals.edu/specialties/travel-clinic/your-visit.html
6. Travel Warnings and Travel alerts by country can be checked at: http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html
7. Be careful with your computer/tablets/phones when you are traveling internationally. For more recommendations from IT Services: http://answers.uchicago.edu/25284
8. Information about International Alumni in the area you are visiting can be found at: http://alumniandfriends.uchicago.edu/site/r3iXXXhRlist/4.662957/K.9887/International.htm

If you are in the area, we invite you to visit the university’s global centers. The Centers can provide support for your research, give you a place to relax, or serve as a meeting place.

1. In Beijing: http://www.uchicago.cn/about-us/contact-the-center/
2. In Delhi: http://www.uchicago.in/about/contact-the-center/
3. In Paris: http://centersinparis.uchicago.edu/about/contact

Safe travels!

The University of Chicago

UChicago Traveler
http://traveler.uchicago.edu
traveler@uchicago.edu
Travel Tips

This article provides information on how to travel safely and productively with electronic devices such as cell phones, smart phones, laptops and tablets both in the U.S. and abroad.

Know Before You Go

Phones, computers and email don’t work the same way everywhere. Before traveling, consider the following technology-related issues:

- Mobile Devices
- Your Computer Connection
- Accessing UChicago Resources
- Accessing the Wireless Network via Eduroam
- Restrictions on Encryption Software
- Security Tips
- Power
- Resources
- Other Items to Consider: Passport Photos and International Identity Cards

Mobile Devices

Contact our cellular experts for assistance before you go. Let us know where you’re going and we’ll advise
UChicago Global Centers

- Beijing, Delhi, Hong Kong, Paris
- Work space
- Collaboration with scholars and students
- Events
- Alumni connections
Alumni

- Clubs
- Events
- Database