



OFF-CAMPUS STUDY & EXCHANGES

Off-Campus Study Waiver

Off-Campus Study Waiver – Skidmore College

Skidmore College is looking forward to your participation in off-campus study. While Skidmore College, Program Providers, foreign governments, and the host communities will do all that they can to maintain a reasonably safe and secure environment, the COVID-19 pandemic still present risks. This document asks students to understand and acknowledge the risks and responsibilities inherent in both international travel and studying off-campus during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Please Read Carefully Before Signing:

- I understand and acknowledge that my decision to participate in an off-campus study program is voluntary and that by committing to attend an off-campus study program, I am voluntarily assuming any and all risks.
- I understand that while there are vaccines available for COVID-19, there is no current cure and vaccinations may not provide 100% protection against the virus or its known mutations. COVID-19 can present a serious health risk and neither Skidmore College nor the off-campus program provider can guarantee my health or immunity from infection.
- I acknowledge that, notwithstanding the best efforts of Skidmore College and/or the program provider to implement and require compliance with prevention and mitigation measures, I may be exposed to the coronavirus and may become ill with COVID-19, and that such exposure and illness may result in personal injury, illness, temporary or permanent disability, or even death.
- I understand and agree that it is my responsibility to consult a healthcare provider to discuss my medical history and the risk presented in participating in off-campus study.
- I understand and acknowledge that scientists and medical professionals, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have concluded that people of any age are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. I have reviewed the CDC website for the exhaustive list of medical conditions that may result in higher risk.
- I understand and acknowledge that the COVID-19 virus is and/or may be active in my location of study. Therefore, there is a risk of exposure from symptomatic and asymptomatic carriers by electing to study on my program. Furthermore, I understand that COVID-19 has disproportionately affected certain racial and ethnic minority groups. I acknowledge that this may be relevant and have an impact on the local community in which I have chosen to study.
- I acknowledge that the host government, local community and program will implement various prevention and mitigation measures including, but not limited to, health screening and testing, social distancing, use of face-coverings, personal hygiene requirements, travel restrictions, contact tracing, and possible periods of quarantine or self-isolation.
 - I acknowledge that it is my responsibility, as a program participant and member of the community, to comply with any and all prevention and mitigation measures.

- Further, I acknowledge that my failure to comply with any required actions relating to such prevention and mitigation efforts will lead to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the program.
- I understand that government entities, as well as the program itself, may implement requirements for my program and/or program location. These requirements can include but are not limited to the requirement to provide a negative COVID-19 test before being able to depart for my program and/or quarantining upon arrival in my location of study. I further understand that my program provider may stipulate that I be vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to participate on the program. I understand and accept that there may be side effects and risks associated with the current COVID-19 vaccines. Further, I understand and accept it will be my responsibility to secure and pay for any required testing or vaccinations prior to my departure to my program location and upon arrival. Further, I acknowledge and accept that there may be a required period of self-isolation or quarantine upon arrival to my program. I agree to comply with these requirements and acknowledge that if quarantine accommodations are not provided by my program, it will be my responsibility to secure and pay for said accommodations and all other costs associated with said quarantine or self-isolation.
- I am aware that Skidmore College allows for medical and religious exemptions from the COVID-19 vaccine requirement. It is my responsibility to pursue and secure a possible exemption through the appropriate office at Skidmore College and inform OCSE should an exemption be approved. I further acknowledge that if an exemption from the COVID-19 vaccine requirement is granted for Skidmore's main campus it may not extend to my off-campus program. I confirm that it is my responsibility to seek an exemption directly from my off-campus program. I understand that this exemption process may differ from Skidmore's exemption process.
- If I am unvaccinated, I understand that although all that is possible will be done to accommodate my participation, I acknowledge that there may be instances where the program activities and/or logistics will not allow for participation. I understand that requirements and restrictions can be placed by a vendor, local government or individual associated with the program and that Skidmore College and/or the program provider has no alternative but to adhere to said requirements and restrictions. This may result in my exclusion from certain program activities. While the program will take this in consideration when assessing my program participation, there will be no financial adjustment or refund for any portion of the program that I am unable to participate in due to an approved exemption.
- I understand and acknowledge that there are inherent risks involved in travel to and from my off-campus study program location. I also understand that while the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) or similar government agencies in my home country, airports, and airlines have instituted policies to mitigate the risk from COVID-19, there are still opportunities for exposure to the virus during travel to and from my program and that it is my responsibility to research and review the safety procedures and protocols instituted by TSA or similar government agencies in my home country, the airports, and airlines prior to commencing travel.
- I understand and accept that it is my responsibility to comply with any ongoing COVID-19 testing required by my program.
- I understand and acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic has temporarily, but significantly, altered the academic and residential experience of my off-campus study program and that my program of choice is implementing many changes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic,

including but not limited to, class scheduling, instructional methodology, classroom density, social distancing measures, housing occupancy and behavioral guidelines, and co-curricular and extra-curricular programming. I agree to accept these changes as part of my participation.

- I acknowledge that the program utilizes its program center and various other locations for instruction and co-curricular and extracurricular activities, thereby becoming an open campus. This limits the program's ability to control who accesses said locations. Therefore, I recognize that the program cannot limit all potential sources of COVID-19 infection.
- I understand and acknowledge that the risk of exposure to or infection by COVID-19 during the program may arise from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and/or others, including, but not limited to, program staff, faculty, students, volunteers and contractors.
- I acknowledge that I have the opportunity to contact Off-Campus Study & Exchanges at Skidmore College and/or my program provider to discuss any risks associated with participating on my off-campus study program. Furthermore, I understand that I can consult the websites of the World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), Department of State (DOS), as well as that of the local U.S. Embassy and the embassy of my host country to obtain information on COVID-19 in my planned location of study. If studying within the United States, I understand that I should consult both the state government website, as well as the local city government website for information on COVID-19. I acknowledge that I alone have to determine the sufficiency of any precautions that I am required or decide to take to minimize the risks of exposure and infection.
- I have not relied on representations or warranties from any party related to Skidmore College or the program provider, including any officer, staff person, faculty member, agent, volunteer, or student, regarding the safety or risks of participating on my off-campus study program. I have relied instead on my own judgment as to whether to undertake the risks.
- I acknowledge that during my time off-campus the COVID-19 pandemic will likely be ongoing. Further, I understand that there may be a resurgence of the virus in my location of study. Skidmore College and/or my program provider may determine for health, safety and/or security reasons that the program must suspend on-site operations and require students to return to their official places of residence. I acknowledge that if the program is suspended it may be my responsibility to secure and pay for all arrangements for my departure, including but not limited to airline change fees and fares, as well as temporary accommodations. I further acknowledge that both Skidmore College and the program provider will put plans in place, to the best of their ability, to continue my program of study remotely.
- I understand and acknowledge that the United States government or that of my home country may institute additional requirements for entry back into the country after international travel. These requirements may include proof of a negative COVID-19 test and/or mandatory quarantine in a facility designated by the government. I understand that payment for any testing will be my sole responsibility. Furthermore, I understand and acknowledge that a positive COVID-19 test may result in my being denied boarding on a flight back to my home country. I acknowledge that should this occur, I may no longer be eligible to reside in program housing and may be required to secure and pay for my own quarantine accommodations until I am cleared to travel home.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge that I have received via email and/or U.S. mail the above referenced waiver regarding participation of my son/daughter/ward in off-campus.

Print Name of Student Studying Off-Campus

By signing below, I certify that I am the parent/legal guardian of the above named student. I have read, understand, acknowledge and agree to the foregoing waiver.

Signature

Date

Printed Name