

## **Summer 2021 – Semester Study Abroad Programs FAQ**

### **Is it possible to apply for a study abroad program in Summer 2021?**

Yes, the Center for International Education, in collaboration with our faculty and overseas partners are working to welcome students to their programs abroad. Applications are currently available for Summer 2021 programs, and the application deadline is February 15, 2021.

Students are encouraged to move forward with planning. But please note, **all programs are still conditional**. If you need these courses to stay on-track for graduation, we encourage you to speak with your academic advisor to plan to take them on-campus this summer or during a subsequent semester. Also, be aware of program fees, deadlines, and cancellation policies.

### **Is it safe to travel abroad?**

Xavier University and the Center for International Education are monitoring the current global environment in regards to COVID-19. Students' health and safety are always our greatest priority in offering programs abroad. We are monitoring a variety of sources to understand if a destination will be viable for summer 2021.

Sources and criteria we will consider in making our decision include:

- the US Department of State Travel Advisory and the CDC Travel Guidance,
- destination country travel restrictions and port of arrival requirements,
- destination country consular services to obtain visas or other entry required document
- availability of flights and ease of flights from and to the USA
- flexibility in deadlines and hybrid/online coursework
- program adherence to COVID-19 protocols/best practices as they evolve

### **Are all study abroad programs/destinations open for summer 2021?**

Students are welcome to apply to any open faculty-led or provider program listed in our application system for this coming summer term. However, it is possible that the program might not be viable for you to study abroad. (see: Is it safe to travel abroad?) Students should be prepared to defer to another term, possibly choose another location if available, or take the course on-campus or online during the summer term.

### **My study abroad location has a Department of State travel alert level 4 – am I permitted to apply?**

No, the Center for International Education has removed summer 2021 applications for countries listed at a DOS travel alert level 4. Xavier's international travel policy prohibits students from traveling to study abroad in a location with a travel alert level 4.

**Will I need to petition to go abroad in the summer term?**

Possibly. Students planning to attend a faculty-led summer program will have their program petitioned by the faculty member running the program. However, if you are studying on a program as an individual with a provider or host university, you will likely submit a petition to the CIE to travel.

All countries with a [Department of State travel alert](#) level 3 will be required to submit a petition for approval to study abroad. You can view details about the [petition submission here](#). Countries with a travel alert level 4 are not permitted.

**When will a decision be made regarding summer 2021 in terms of cancellation?**

Based on student applications, programs will be assessed in the month of February. Students will be notified in early to mid-March of the program status.

Students planning to study abroad on programs that are approved are still asked to have a back-up plan, in the event that the situation changes in that country between the time the decision is made and the student departs for their program.

**What are the financial implications if my program is cancelled?**

The Center for International Education will return your application fee and deposit for your program, if the program is cancelled by Xavier. If the program is determined to run, and you decide to cancel after the program deposit deadline, we will be unable to return your fees.

If you have paid any fees or deposits to your host university abroad/program provider, you will be required to adhere to that institution's specific cancellation and refund policy.

We strongly recommend that you DO NOT make travel arrangements, pay non-refundable housing deposits, or pay for visa processing until your program is confirmed and it is necessary to do so.

**Will the international health insurance required by the CIE/Xavier cover me if I get sick while abroad?**

The insurance provided by CISI insurance or equivalent provided by your program provider covers emergency medical costs during your time abroad. All travelers should maintain primary health insurance coverage while abroad.

**When should I book my flight?**

The CIE recommends waiting to book any non-refundable flights until it is absolutely necessary to do so. We also recommend purchasing flight insurance through your airline. Xavier cannot refund any part of your flight if you were to cancel your program or return earlier than planned.

**Should I purchase additional travel or trip cancellation insurance?**

Due to the unpredictable nature of international travel at this time, we encourage you to purchase refundable/changeable airline ticket and/or additional flight or trip cancellation insurance from the airline or another company.

**What happens if there is a new wave of the virus while I am abroad? Will I be sent home?**

Xavier University and the CIE continue to monitor data surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Consistent with our Travel Policy, if being abroad presents a significant risk to your health or safety, we may decide that you must come home from your program abroad. If this is necessary, the CIE will notify you and advise you on next steps.