



# The Medical College of Georgia Office of Academic Affairs

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Applicable to: students studying abroad

Approved by: COC

Category: Electives

## Policy Regarding Travel to Other Countries

The Medical College of Georgia supports and encourages interested medical students to travel to foreign countries for electives. However, personal safety remains paramount when engaging in any activity abroad. Therefore, the following will be strictly enforced.

**Credit:** To receive credit for any international elective, a student's application must be approved by Study Abroad, the Global Health Director, and the Curriculum Office prior to travel. Credit will not be given to a student who travels to a country without prior approval. Retroactive credit will *not* be given.

**High Risk Travel:** Certain elevated risk experiences (elevated risk level because of remoteness and poor medical delivery system, potentially requiring team self-extrication) may be undertaken, but only on teams lead by experienced MCG faculty. Permission to participate on a team traveling one of these elevated risk areas will be granted on an individual basis and students will be required to sign a waiver before embarking.

MCG cannot regulate where individuals travel during their vacation or personal time, but nonetheless strongly discourages travel to any country with State Department or CDC warning or to any high-risk areas. Therefore, MCG will not give credit for travel to a country with a Travel Warning.

If a travel advisory level is raised for a country after initial approval but prior to departure or during the experience, the approval may be rescinded. If approval is rescinded, the student/s will be asked to remain at home if they have not left or to return to the United States immediately. For students who are in this situation, credit for the course will be decided on a case by case basis by appropriate faculty members including but not limited to the supervising faculty on the trip, the Global Health Director, and the Assistant/Associate Dean for Curriculum.

U.S. State Department - <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html>

CDC - <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/>