On June 18, the International Travel Oversight Committee announced that given the continued uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on worldwide travel and global health risks, the university made the difficult decision to cancel all long-term international academic experiences for Fall 2020.

The university is allowing graduate and professional students to submit a petition for exception to the International Travel Oversight Committee, with approval from their dean or dean’s designee, for long-term international academic experiences for Fall 2020.

Students petitioning for exception should understand that the circumstances under which an exception will be made are limited. Students should not rely solely on international travel when planning their Fall academic work and should prepare alternate plans that do not involve travel.
Petition for Exception

To submit a petition, please prepare a 1-page document with the following information.

- Name
- University E-Mail Address
- Washington University in St. Louis School Affiliation and Academic Program
- Where do you plan to travel to complete your academic work?
- Country of Permanent Home Residence
  - If you live outside of the U.S. and plan to pursue academic work in the same location, please state that.
- Explanation of Academic Work
  - Describe your academic work and the importance of traveling abroad to complete it.
  - Include any information regarding grant requirements or other extenuating considerations.
  - Explain the nature of your work/research and any precautions you’re taking in light of the risks posed by COVID-19. For example, if your research involves interviewing people, how are you adjusting your process to appropriately social distance? If you plan on attending an international university, what information have you received from the school regarding protective measures?
- Description of Local Resources
  - What will your housing accommodations be?
  - Will you work with a local institution or university?
  - What support system do you have in place locally?

This petition for exception must be approved by your dean, or the dean’s designee before the International Travel Oversight Committee will review it. A physical signature, electronic signature, or a statement e-mailed to your program administrator are all acceptable forms of approval.

Once approved by your dean, or their designee, submit the document to your program administrator with the subject line: “Petition for Exception –Your First Initial. Last Name”. For example, Petition for Exception –G. Smith”.

Your program administrator will work with the International Travel Oversight Committee to review your petition for exception. If approved, you will be notified and be required to sign an acknowledgment and waiver form, indicating in part that you have read any applicable travel warnings and understand the potential associated risks of traveling abroad but are voluntarily choosing to travel despite those risks. If the International Travel Oversight Committee denies your petition for exception, you will receive a notification of their decision.

Your program administrator: Angela Wilson, angela.wilson@wustl.edu

This petition is due to your program administrator no later than 08/15/2020. Contact your program administrator or itoc@wustl.edu with any questions.