

# COVID-19 TRAVEL UPDATE

March 6, 2020



Salisbury University (SU) and the University System of Maryland (USM) are actively monitoring the global outbreak of a novel coronavirus (COVID-19). In the last week, the number of community-acquired cases of COVID-19 has spread throughout the United States. The first cases of COVID-19 have been diagnosed in the State of Maryland and Governor Hogan has declared a state of emergency as more testing is expected to result in more cases in the coming days. SU's primary goal is to protect its faculty staff and students. SU will continue to update the community as often as necessary as the situation evolves including hour by hour.

## Study Abroad

The University has suspended its spring 2020 study abroad programs in South Korea and Italy following the U.S. Department of State's (USDOS) elevating its Travel Advisory to Level 3: Reconsider Travel for these countries and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) elevating its Travel Health Notice to Level 3: Avoid Non-Essential Travel. SU students have returned to the U.S. and have been asked to self-isolate at home for 14 days according to the [University System of Maryland Statement on Self Isolation of Students, Faculty & Staff](#). The University emphasizes the importance of not returning to campus and refraining from non-essential contact with others during the two-week self-isolation period. Members of the campus community may want to visit friends on campus, but the University insists that travelers from CDC Level 3 countries avoid doing so for 14 days.

**SU will suspend all study abroad programs for summer 2020 or fall 2020 in any countries with a USDOS Travel Advisory Level 3 or 4 or a CDC Travel Health Notice 1-3.** The University will continue the suspensions of study abroad programs in those destinations and any new countries added to the same USDOS Travel Advisory and CDC Travel Health Notice levels until the levels are lowered. Students should contact the Janet Dudley-Eshbach Center for International Education for more details.

## International Travel

**SU discourages all members of the University community from any non-essential international travel independent of any CDC or USDOS advisory levels.** The University is suspending authorization for travel using institutional funds to or from any country with a USDOS Travel Advisory Level 3 or Level 4 or a CDC Travel Health Notice of Level 1-3. Exceptions must be approved by the Office of the Provost. Faculty and staff who already have arrangements for University-funded travel to impacted countries should contact their dean or direct supervisor for more details.

## Domestic Travel

**SU recommends that all members of the community reconsider any non-essential domestic travel.** This recommendation applies particularly to all travel by plane, train and boat. Professional and academic conferences and events have begun to be cancelled around the country. Members of the University community should contact their dean or direct supervisor for more details if a pre-approved conference or event has been cancelled.

The University encourages all members of the community to exercise caution when travelling for essential reasons either internationally or domestically.

- Keep your immunizations up-to-date including an annual flu shot.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water following the CDC's handwashing guidelines (or use a hand sanitizer with an alcohol content of at least 60% if soap and water are not available).

Any member of the SU community who travels to a country with a CDC Travel Health Notice of Level 1-3 is required to self-isolate for 14 days prior to returning to campus. Further direction on self-isolation can be found at the [University System of Maryland Statement on Self Isolation of Students, Faculty & Staff](#). Employees should contact direct supervisors upon completion of domestic or international travel. If members of the University community develop cold- or flu-like symptoms during or after travel, the CDC advises that individuals call ahead and notify your health care provider of symptoms and recent travel history. Contact with others should be avoided until a health care provider has provided an evaluation. These precautions also apply also to treatment at the Student Health Center.

Visit the U.S. Department of State's [Travel Advisories page](#) for the most up to date information on current warning levels.