Renewed: August 22, 2019

Restriction on Student Travel to Guatemala for University Related Purposes
Students who travel to Guatemala for University related purposes may only do so through the UVA in Guatemala Initiative. Students are required to review their travel plans with the International Studies Office (ISO) and the Director of the UVA in Guatemala Initiative Dr. David Burt, read the most recent U.S. Department of State information on safety and security in Guatemala, complete an additional waiver and release of liability, and register their travel with the ISO.

Proposals for UVA faculty-led education abroad programs to Guatemala, as well as requests to include travel to Guatemala as part of other UVa faculty-led education abroad programs in the region will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the University’s International Travel Risk Management Committee.

Rationale
The US State Department has issued a Level 2 Threat Advisory “Exercise Increased Caution” for Guatemala, with Level 3 Advisories of “Reconsider Travel” for several departments due to violent and organized crime. Since many of these areas affect transportation routes, including the international airport, and have shifted over the past year, the University restricts travel and requires a petition for students traveling outside the Guatemala Initiative. Participants working with Dr. Burt and through the Guatemala Initiative are excepted, because this collaboration works closely and regularly with the ISO and Provost’s Office to assess safety conditions and make adjustments as necessary.

Exemptions
Exemptions to the restriction on student travel to Guatemala for University related purposes may be requested by undergraduate or graduate students. See “Petitioning for Exemptions” in the Policy on Student International Travel.

University International Travel Risk Management Committee
Members include the vice provost for global affairs and representatives from the Office of University Counsel, Office of Property & Liability Risk Management, Office of the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, International Studies Office, Elson Student Health Center, Office of the Dean of Students, Office of the Vice President for Research, and at least three members of the faculty from schools with a particularly high level of student travel abroad programs, who each serve three-year terms.

International Studies Office (ISO) Resources
208 Minor Hall
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4165

U.S. Department of State International Travel Resources
U.S. Department of State Travel Advisories
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
434/982 3010 – telephone
434/982 3011 – fax
www.virginia.edu/iso

World Health Organization