

Keck Director Responsibilities

- Be in regular contact with project directors, as well as other sources in-country and in the US about health, safety, and security issues.
- Provide guidelines with respect to intervention and referral, that takes into account the nature and location of the study abroad program, and possible limitations inherent in such settings.
- Have contingency and crisis response plans.
- Provide basic health, safety, and security information to participants, and indicate resources where students and parents can inform themselves further.
- Consider health, safety, and security issues when evaluating and implementing of overseas projects.
- Require all study abroad participants to have health insurance and require medical evacuation insurance for selected countries.
- Respond to expressions of health, safety, and/or security concerns by students, parents, and faculty.
- In cases of serious health problems, injury, or other significant health and safety circumstances, maintain good communication among all program participants and others who need to know.
- Provide all participants with a handbook informing them of all applicable policies, regulations, and codes of conduct.
- Provide information for participants and their parents / guardians / families regarding when and where the sponsor's responsibility ends, and the range of aspects of participants' experiences that are beyond the Consortium's control.

Student Responsibilities

- Read and carefully consider all materials issued by the Consortium office and the project director that relate to safety, health, legal, environmental, political, cultural, and religious conditions in the project location.
- Conduct his/her own research on the location of the project with particular emphasis on health and safety concerns, social and cultural norms and customs, and political situations.
- Consider his/her physical and mental health, and other personal circumstances when applying for or accepting a place in a program, and make available to the Consortium and project director accurate and complete physical and mental health information and any other personal data that is necessary in planning for a safe and healthy experience.
- Assume responsibility for all the elements necessary for his/her personal preparation for the program and participate fully in on-site orientations.
- In consultation with a reputable travel clinic, obtain all necessary immunizations, prescriptions, and health teaching necessary for the project.
- Obtain and maintain insurance coverage and abide by any conditions imposed by the carriers.
- Inform parents/guardians/families, and any others who may need to know, about his/her participation in the study abroad program, provide them with emergency contact information, and keep them informed of his/her whereabouts and activities.
- Understand and comply with the terms of participation, codes of conduct, and emergency procedures of the program, and obey host-country laws.
- Be aware of local conditions and customs that may present health or safety risks when making daily choices and decisions. Promptly express any health or safety concerns to the program staff or other appropriate individuals before and/or during the program.
- Avoid all illegal drugs and excessive consumption of alcohol.
- Behave in a manner that is respectful of the rights and well being of others, and encourage others to behave in a similar manner.
- Accept responsibility for his/her own decisions and actions.
- Become familiar with the procedures for obtaining emergency health and law enforcement services in the project location.
- Follow the program policies for keeping program staff informed of his/her whereabouts and well being.
- Understand that in the case of serious illness, accident, injury, or significant violation of policies or regulations, the Consortium will inform your parents.

Parent, Guardian, and Family Responsibilities

- Obtain and carefully evaluate participant program materials, as well as related health and safety information, as provided by the Consortium and other sources.
- Be involved in the decision of the student to enroll in a particular project.
- Discuss with the student any of his/her travel plans and activities that may be independent of the research project.
- Engage the student in a thorough discussion of safety and behavior issues, insurance needs, and emergency procedures.
- Be responsive to requests from the Consortium for information regarding the student.
- Keep in touch with the student. But keep in mind that local conditions may prevent the student from immediately responding to you.
- Be aware that the student rather than the project or Consortium Director may most appropriately provide some information.
- Be sensitive to local customs and cultural norms if student is on an overseas project.
- Remember time differences when phoning your student.
- Understand that if you call us about your student, we will contact the project director and the student; however FERPA may prohibit us from responding to you directly.

On-line Health and Safety Resources

Bureau of Consular Affairs, US Department of State

travel.state.gov

Consular Information Sheets/Public Announcements/Travel Warnings for individual countries

travel.state.gov

Tips for US Students Abroad

travel.state.gov/studentinfo.html

Travel and Living Abroad

travel.state.gov

Links to US Embassies and Consulates Worldwide

travel.state.gov/links.html

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov

Travelers' Health

www.cdc.gov/travel

Other Health Related websites:

Alcoholics Anonymous

www.alcoholics-anonymous.org

Overeaters Anonymous

www.overeatersanonymous.org

National Association of Anorexia Nervosa

www.anad.org

Association for Safe International Road Travel

www.asirt.org

SAFTI Project Website

www.lmu.edu/globaled/new/safetinelw.htm

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With regard to project participation, The Keck Geology Consortium:

- Cannot guarantee or assure the safety of participants or eliminate all risks from the project environments.
- Cannot monitor or control all of the daily personal decisions, choices, and activities of participants.
- Cannot prevent participants from engaging in illegal, dangerous or unwise activities, but reserves the right to impose sanctions, including immediate expulsion from the program, of any participant who engages in such activities.
- Cannot assure that U.S. standards of due process apply in overseas legal proceedings or provide or pay for legal representation for participants.
- Cannot assume responsibility for the actions of persons not employed or otherwise engaged by the Consortium, for events that are not part of the program, or that are beyond the control of the sponsor and its subcontractors, or for situations that may arise due to the failure of a participant to disclose pertinent information.
- Cannot assure that the cultural values and norms of the United States will apply in overseas locations.

Keck Geology Consortium

Health, Safety, and Security for Program Participants

Statement of Purpose

Because the health and safety of program participants are primary concerns, these good practices have been developed to provide useful practical guidance to project directors, participants, and parents/guardians/families. No set of practices can guarantee the health and safety needs of each individual involved in a Consortium project, but they address issues that merit attention and thoughtful judgment. They are intentionally general and they cannot possibly account for all the inevitable variations in actual cases that arise. Therefore, as specific situations arise, those involved must also rely upon their collective experience and judgment while considering the unique circumstances of each situation.

(see "Responsible Study Abroad: Good Practices for Health and Safety"

www.secussa.nafsa.org/safetyabroad/goodpractices2003.html)