

**Policy for International Student/Scholar Arrival from Abroad and  
International Travel for Students and Employees**

June 2, 2021

**Plan for Current/New Incoming Students/Scholars:**

1. New incoming students/scholars traveling from abroad (international travel)
  - a. Prior to arrival, current CDC guidelines regarding precautions to prevent COVID-19 will be sent to students/scholars.
  - b. If arrival assistance is needed from Mobile Regional Airport, students will have masks provided for both driver and student by the Office of International Admissions & Student Programs. No limit to number of passengers transported (use of University Van's from Enrollment Services may be used – approval would be needed).
  - c. Upon arrival to destination, non-vaccinated students/scholars will begin mandatory 7-day quarantine. Student will submit record of pre-departure PCR test to Student Health as soon as results are received. Upon arrival (or next business day), students/scholars will be required to report to Student Health for second COVID-19 PCR tests. Second test will be administered by Student Health at 11:30 am OR 3:30 pm. The student/scholar will remain in quarantine until they receive the second negative test AND 7 days have passed since arrival. PCR Testing will be provided by Student Health at no cost to the individual. Student Health will provide medical clearance for the student/scholar to begin on-campus activities and classes. If a positive test result is received on either test, the student/scholar must isolate, report the positive case to [reportcovid@southalabama.edu](mailto:reportcovid@southalabama.edu), and follow all procedures indicated by Contact Tracing and Student Health until they receive medical clearance for in-person classes and events.
  - d. Students, scholars and employees who leave the U.S. and travel abroad and have been fully vaccinated with an FDA or WHO authorized vaccine against COVID-19 will be required to show negative COVID-19 PCR test results when tested 1-3 days prior to their return flight and when tested 3-5 days after travel (COVID-19 PCR); however, quarantine is not required for fully vaccinated individuals. Students who have been vaccinated with non-FDA/WHO authorized vaccines will follow the non-vaccinated protocol, but will be able to receive an authorized vaccine 28 days after initial, non-authorized vaccine.
  - e. COVID Vaccinations - new students will be eligible for vaccination upon arrival. Students may be vaccinated at Civic Center USA Health Site or Student Health (if vaccines are available).
  - f. Our community partners, along with the Office of International Admissions & Student Programs, will assist with the immediate needs. These items include the scheduling of COVID-19 testing through Student Health, set-up of housing, utilities, furniture, groceries, bank account, cellular service, etc.
  - g. OIASP will apply for funding through HEERF to assist with students quarantine cost
  - h. Students serving their 14 or 7 day quarantine in campus housing (Delta 3) beginning August 2nd or later will have access to 3 meals per day from Fresh Food Company.

These meals will be delivered to students each evening and include a hot dinner, next day breakfast and lunch option. Cost is \$25 per day to be covered by Global USA.

- i. Depending on a student's arrival date to the US, if students quarantine overlaps with the start of classes, the student will need to consult with individual instructors to determine plans for maintaining progress in the course.
  - j. University policy may change based on updated CDC guidelines.
2. Current students/scholars/employees coming from abroad (international travel)
- a. Prior to any international departure, personal or university-related, students, scholars, and employees are required to contact the Global USA office with the following information: dates of travel and countries to be visited. Employees are also required to provide this information to their supervisor.
  - b. For employees, all University-related international/foreign travel must be approved by the appropriate department head, dean/administrator, Vice-President/Senior Vice President and President  
<https://www.southalabama.edu/departments/ie/intltravel.html>.
  - c. Non-vaccinated students, scholars, and employees who choose to leave the US during break and travel abroad will be required to quarantine for 14 days upon return. Students, scholars, and employees may opt for a mandatory, modified quarantine period with two negative COVID-19 PCR test results. If this option is selected, the individual will test 1-3 days prior to their return flight or as soon as possible upon return, test again 3-5 days after travel, AND remain in quarantine for 7 days after travel. COVID-19 PCR testing costs will be an individual's personal responsibility and may be conducted at Student Health or another testing site. Student Health or Employee Health and Wellness will provide medical clearance for return to on-campus activities and classes. If a positive test result is received on any COVID-19 test, the individual must isolate, report the positive case to [reportcovid@southalabama.edu](mailto:reportcovid@southalabama.edu), and follow all procedures indicated by Contact Tracing and Student Health/Employee Health until they receive medical clearance for in-person classes, work activities, and events.
  - d. Students, scholars and employees who leave the U.S. and travel abroad and have been fully vaccinated with an FDA or WHO authorized vaccine against COVID-19 will be required to show negative COVID-19 PCR test results when tested 1-3 days prior to their return flight and when tested 3-5 days after travel (COVID-19 PCR); however, quarantine is not required for fully vaccinated individuals. Students who have been vaccinated with non-FDA/WHO authorized vaccines will follow the non-vaccinated protocol, but will be able to receive an authorized vaccine 28 days after initial, non-authorized vaccine.
  - e. Depending on a student's arrival date to the US, if students quarantine overlaps with the start of classes, the student will need to consult with individual instructors to determine plans for maintaining progress in the course.
  - f. For personal international travel, employees must consult with their supervisor prior to travel to determine whether remote work will be allowed during the post-travel quarantine period. If remote work is not approved by the supervisor, the employee will be required to use additional vacation/PTO days, as applicable, for the post-travel quarantine period, and supervisory approval of the additional vacation/PTO days must

be obtained prior to travel. For business-related international travel, the employee will consult with the supervisor to determine details of remote work to be performed during the post-travel quarantine period.

3. Exceptions

- a. Exceptions may be allowed for those who have tested positive for COVID-19 within 90 days of travel. Requests for exceptions should be submitted to GlobalUSA for initial review. If the exception meets initial review by GlobalUSA, it will be submitted to the Reopening Committee for final approval.