

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

## **Policy on International Educational Experiences**

### **I. POLICY**

All UPSOM medical students pursuing international educational experiences must have their travel plans approved by the Associate Dean for Global Health or Associate Dean for Student Affairs prior to departure.

Students must complete pre-travel training and preparation as specified in the Procedure on International Educational Travel Planning.

Students must register their travel plans with the Office of Student Affairs, Pitt International SOS and with the US Department of State Smart Traveler Enrollment Program, as specified in the Procedure.

UPSOM will not permit students to travel to locations with a current State Department Travel Advisory level 4 or as otherwise prohibited by the University of Pittsburgh.

If a student does not complete the required pre-travel planning, preparation, and registration, the student will not be eligible to receive academic credit and will not receive financial support from any university department, office, or the Medical Alumni Association.

To be eligible for consideration for an international elective, a student must be in good academic standing, and not be subject to any pending action by the Promotion Committee.

### **II. PURPOSE**

This policy seeks to safeguard the health and safety of medical student who wish to participate in international educational experiences, and maintain the academic integrity of the University of Pittsburgh. This includes but is not limited to conferences, research, and clinical electives, or any other activities as representatives of UPSOM. This policy does not apply to personal trips outside of the US.

### **III. SCOPE**

This policy applies to:

- Medical students

#### **IV. POLICY AUTHOR(S)**

- Office of Student Affairs

#### **V. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

- Procedure on International Educational Experiences
- University of Pittsburgh International Travel Guidelines

#### **VI. REFERENCES**

LCME Element 11.3: Oversight of Extramural Electives: If a medical student at a medical school is permitted to take an elective under the auspices of another medical school, institution, or organization, a centralized system exists in the dean's office at the home school to review the proposed extramural elective prior to approval and to ensure the return of a performance assessment of the student and an evaluation of the elective by the student. Information about such issues as the following are available, as appropriate, to the student and the medical school in order to inform the student's and the school's review of the experience prior to its approval:

- Potential risks to the health and safety of patients, students, and the community
- The availability of emergency care
- The possibility of natural disasters, political instability, and exposure to disease
- The need for additional preparation prior to, support during, and follow-up after the elective
- The level and quality of supervision
- Any potential challenges to the code of medical ethics adopted by the home school

#### **VII. APPROVALS**

Education Policy Council, November 9, 2018

Dean, School of Medicine, November 9, 2018