

Expanded Health and Safety Protocols During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Background:

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the spring 2020 semester, CAPA quickly assessed and responded to all information as it became available. The CAPA team ensured that institutional partners and students were regularly and consistently informed and provided with the latest guidance and medical and public health resources. Effective communication was ensured through a combination of regular emails and messages through CAPA's student portal, the Community, as well as through Town Hall sessions. In response to expert advice and local government health department regulations, students were self-isolated. CAPA successfully helped students return to the US to complete their programs remotely following the directives of the US Department of State and CDC. As in all matters regarding health and safety, CAPA's partner universities in the US were kept informed of the status of all their students.

We continue to navigate the ongoing pandemic and look ahead to the return of students to our study centers. We continue to monitor the specific situation of each of our program locations, respond to local guidance, remain informed of the current research, and review a wide array of sources and data aggregation sites to ensure we have the latest information available.

New protocols aimed specifically at reducing risk within the CAPA environment have been developed. These protocols and guidance cover the following areas:

- 1. Assessing whether the in-country portion of a program should operate
- 2. The Boston enrollment and advising team including communications and expectation setting
- 3. CAPA Centers abroad
- 4. A student has symptoms of COVID-19
- 5. A student tests positive for COVID-19
- 6. Student housing
- 7. Government-required quarantine
- 8. Suspension of in-country portion of a program while students are abroad
- 9. Internship sites
- 10. Out of class activities and general guidance
- 11. Guidance for parents

These protocols apply to Spring 2021 and are subject to change based on new developments both in the US and program locations. They will continue to be reviewed in conjunction with CAPA's institutional partners. We will continually evaluate risk reduction protocols and will implement any required changes quickly, and with extensive and clear communications within the wider CAPA community.

Clear communication is of critical importance in these unusual times and CAPA is committed to keeping partners, students, and staff appropriately informed at all times. Additionally, as this is a community

disease, it is crucial that students are aware of the part they must play to ensure their own safety and that of others.