

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

about novel coronavirus and COVID-19

Updated 3/6/2020

Q: Has Furman University limited travel overseas

A: Furman has cancelled all upcoming Furman-sponsored international travel through May 2020.

Q: Have any students been sent home from study away programs?

A: On Feb. 29, three students who were studying in Italy left the country after the CDC raised the travel alert for Italy to Level 3 (avoid all non-essential travel), and the programs the students were studying with closed.

Q: Is the university requiring students currently studying overseas to return?

A: At this time, no Furman students are in countries with a CDC or U.S. Department of State Level 3 Travel Advisory, no other Furman-affiliated overseas academic programs have been canceled or indicated they plan to close, and the university does not have any study away programs scheduled to travel to Level 3 Travel Advisory countries. Under these conditions, at this time, the university is not requiring these students to return home. However, this situation is constantly evolving. We will continue to monitor developments in the United States and across the globe and communicate any changes to these plans.

Q: If students (or faculty or staff members) travel overseas for personal reasons, will they be allowed to return to campus?

A: The university strongly advises students, faculty and staff to be aware of and follow the CDC's travel guidelines. Anyone who has been in or traveled through a country with a Level 3 warning will be asked to self-quarantine at home for 14 days before returning to campus.

Q: Who is making decisions about study away?

A: Furman University' Study Away Safety and Compliance and Assessment of Risk Committee and the university's emergency management team are meeting regularly to monitor the situation and make decisions related to the coronavirus.

Q: On what is the university basing its decisions?

A: The university is continually monitoring:

- Travel advice published by the [U.S. Department of State](#),
- Information from the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and
- Information from a national network of institutions of higher education.

These sources – along with epidemiologists on the Furman faculty, the medical director of Student Health Services and a Prisma Health infectious disease expert – are guiding the university's decisions.

Q: What can parents do?

- Refer to the [Department of State](#) and the [Center for Disease Control](#) for the latest and most accurate information about the coronavirus.
- For questions about study away, email Nancy Georgiev (nancy.georgiev@furman.edu), Director for Study Away and International Education.
- Advise your students to follow updates from the university and to share any international travel plans with Student Life.