

**Interim Policy:  
PLU-sponsored travel to countries with travel advisories**

*Approved by the PLU International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Task Force (ITRAATF)  
May 20, 2021*

Current university policy limits [student](#) travel to any country or location designated as Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory by the U.S. Department of State (USDOS) and [faculty/staff](#) travel to any country or location designated as Level 4 Travel Advisory by the U.S. Department of State (USDOS).

On April 19th, 2021 the Department of State (see: <https://www.state.gov/travel-advisory-updates/>) announced its intention to align its advisories with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) science-based Travel Health Notices that moved 80% of the world to Advisory Level 4 – Do Not Travel. In making this announcement, the Department of State made clear this shift is not due to changing conditions on the ground but is rather an alignment with CDC Travel Health Notices. It also makes clear that these advisories should not be used as a single decision-making tool in determining risk levels and limiting travel. It also indicates it will update the advisories with more frequency than it has in the past. Given this development, moving forward, and pending further notice, all university-sponsored international travel must be approved by the International Travel Risk Assessment and Advisory Task Force (ITRAATF), which will conduct a comprehensive risk assessment and review of multiple current indicators, including standard points of reference, to determine advisability of travel and ways to mitigate risk if approved. The university, in its sole discretion, may deny approval for international travel. For more information or to request approval, contact the relevant member of PLU's ITRAATF, no later than one month prior to planned travel:

- For Wang Center-related travel, contact Megan Grover, Associate Director of Study Away, Wang Center for Global and Community Engaged Education
- For Advancement, MARCOM, Alumni and Student Connections-related travel, contact Dan Lee, Vice-President, University Relations
- For Administrative Services-related travel, contact Teri Phillips, Chief Operating Officer
- For Admissions, Faculty and Staff Development in the Academic Division, and Research-related travel, contact Joanna Gregson, Provost
- For Athletics, Student Engagement, and Staff Development in the Student Life Division-related travel, contact Joanna Royce Davis, Vice-President, Student Life