



Dear students, faculty and staff,

San Diego State University has been closely monitoring the global situation with the coronavirus, including new advisories to avoid non-essential travel issued by the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and the [U.S. Department of State](#). As this is a swiftly shifting situation, we must take necessary precautions to help ensure the safety and wellbeing of our campus community.

After thorough assessment, SDSU has decided to cancel its study abroad programs in South Korea for the spring semester, following a decision to cancel programs in China. We are calling students in South Korea back to the United States, and will support them during and after the process. Additional details are outlined below.

As this email provides additional information and direction for all members of our campus community, we ask that all campus community members read this message in total.

Campus Operations

SDSU continues to operate normally, and no plans exist to cancel classes. Please continue to report to work and attend class, lest you are ill. Any disruptions to campus functions would come at the direction of San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency, and would be directly communicated to the campus.

SDSU has also launched a public-facing site with [information related to the coronavirus](#). Please visit the site regularly, as it will be updated with new and relevant information.

Study Abroad Programs

Our primary concern is with the safety and wellbeing of our campus community. SDSU's decision to cancel its study abroad programs in South

Korea follows the California State University's decision to suspend the systemwide International Programs (IP) in Seoul, South Korea, announced today, Feb. 27.

At the time of this writing, the following is known due to the outbreak of COVID-19, and we encourage all students, faculty and staff to follow the current guidance:

- **China and South Korea:** The CDC and the U.S. Department of State have issued level 3 warnings, urging people to avoid non-essential travel to the country. Spring study abroad programs have been cancelled; summer and fall programs may be impacted, and students are advised to avoid planning study abroad trips to these countries at this time.
- **Italy, Japan and Iran:** The CDC has issued a level 2 warning, encouraging special precautions for high-risk travelers (older adults and those with chronic medical conditions). Additionally, the U.S. Department of State has issued a level 2 warning to Italy, urging travelers to exercise increased caution. SDSU Study Abroad is contacting students in these countries to provide direct support.

As an assessment is ongoing, SDSU may decide to implement changes that will impact plans for programs during the summer and fall. If you are currently studying abroad in Italy and Japan, you may consider returning home, even if your program is continuing. Any students with study abroad-related questions should contact the SDSU Study Abroad office at 619-594-2475 or studyabroad@sdsu.edu.

Planned International Travel

Students, faculty and staff may be planning international travel into Asia, Europe, Mexico or other parts of the world in the weeks ahead, especially as we are approaching spring recess. We urge you to be attentive to travel advisories and existing regulations, and to follow the guidance provided by agencies, such as the CDC and the U.S. Department of State.

Please familiarize yourself with the following:

- The CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 [Information for Travel](#)
- The CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) [Situation Summary](#)
- The U.S. Department of State's [Travel Advisories](#) site

- The U.S. Department of State's [Country Information](#) site
- The World Health Organization's [Coronavirus site](#)

If you are traveling in or returning from other countries, you may be asked by a public health official to restrict travel or to self-quarantine in certain circumstances. We urge you to follow the guidance of public health officials and government agencies.

Personal Care

All students, staff and faculty are reminded to practice [healthy habits](#) and good hygiene. We must all be reminded that the best available recommendations to avoid infection is careful and routine sanitation and illness prevention efforts. For more details, visit the university's [site on coronavirus](#).

The CDC does not recommend the use of facemasks for general prevention from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19. Regular handwashing is highly encouraged, as it provides better protection.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to rely on SDSU's [campus support services](#) if they require assistance.

The health and safety of all members of our community and visitors is our utmost priority, and we each have a role in helping to mitigate this emerging global public health situation. Thank you for your attention and care.

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