

The [U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and the [U.S. Department of State](#) has elevated its travel advisories to a level 3 for Italy due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, San Diego State University is calling on its students studying in the country to return home. The travel warning recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to Italy. SDSU is both contacting those students and offering support for their return.

If you are currently studying abroad in Italy, we ask that you:

- Consider making arrangements to return home as soon as possible.
- Contact the ACE Travel Assistance (AXA) Program for assistance in arranging your travel home:
  - Organization: California State University RMA
  - Policy Number: ADD N04950872R
  - Assistance Provider: AXA Assistance USA, Inc.
  - Phone: +1 (630) 694-9764
  - Email: [medassist-usa@axa-ssistance.us](mailto:medassist-usa@axa-ssistance.us)

We understand that some of you may be trying to determine how best to manage finances as you prepare to return home, or may be concerned about losing academic credit as a result of this decision.

- Some host universities abroad are creating remote learning options. Emails were sent directly to students to outline options. The study abroad team will also confirm students' understanding of the options that are available.
- SDSU is also creating an accelerated academic term to be held March 16 to May 14 to support SDSU students who return with the ability to continue classes this spring term. Final planning and details are in progress. Online coursework will be available and we will notify students as soon as we have details in place.
- Students who are able to retain enrollment options via host universities or SDSU will retain their aid.

We are here to support you. Contact SDSU's Study Abroad office at 619-594-2475 or [studyabroad@sdsu.edu](mailto:studyabroad@sdsu.edu) as you need support specific to your situation.

The university will not be able to provide the same level of support if you decide to remain independently in Italy.

No cases of the coronavirus exist among members of the SDSU community, and with the exception of study abroad programs suspended in China, South Korea and Italy, the university remains open and classes will continue as usual.

The CDC provides the following guidance for those returning from all other countries, with the exception of China:

- No order for quarantine or self-isolation exists for individuals from any area other than mainland China.
- If you must travel, avoid contact with people who are sick, wash your hands often and/or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains a minimum of 60 percent alcohol.
- Pay attention to your health during travel and for 14 days after you leave.
- If you spent time in Italy during the past 14 days and feel sick with fever or cough or have difficulty breathing, take your temperature and seek medical advice. Call ahead before going in for care to explain your recent travel and symptoms. This will help others to avoid becoming ill.

Given earlier elevated travel restrictions the CDC and U.S. Department of State also in place for China and South Korea, SDSU has recalled students home from programs in those countries. The university continues to closely monitor the global public health situation and is assessing possible changes to study abroad programs in other countries. Students are encouraged to identify alternate options.

Please visit SDSU's [site on coronavirus](#), where you can find information about COVID-19, preventive measures, and other resources. Also, students, faculty and staff are encouraged to rely on SDSU's [campus support services](#) if they require assistance.

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