GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING PROGRAMS

KEI’s goal is to provide a safe environment for our program participants and staff. We also endeavor to mitigate risk for our partner academic institutions abroad and in the USA as well as the host communities where we operate programs. While we are excited to restart programs, we are cognizant of the challenges of operating in a constantly changing environment.

Our Health & Safety Committee (HSC) meets regularly to discuss new developments, identify the best course of action, and make program decisions. HSC relies on a variety of sources for information, including but not limited to, the US Department of State (DOS), US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), embassies and health ministries of the host countries, KEI partner institutions abroad, KEI’s insurance provider, KEI onsite staff, and in-country media sources.

In determining program re-opening, the HSC considers the following factors.

US citizens must be able to travel abroad and return safely. Among other considerations, KEI assesses the following:

- Travel restrictions allow students to travel.
- US citizens can legally enter the host country.
- The US Embassy in the host country is open.

The host country is managing the COVID-19 pandemic in a way that allows students to successfully complete the program. Among other considerations, KEI assesses the following at the host location:

- Trends in the number of new cases
- Vaccination data
- Access to healthcare
- Safety regulations (i.e. mask wearing, social distancing, vaccination requirements)
- Restrictions (access to entertainment and cultural venues, restaurants, etc.)

The program can be altered to mitigate risk to students as well as other people involved with the program. Among other considerations, KEI assesses the following at the host location:

- Host university regulations on social distancing, mask wearing, contact tracing, and class size.
- Program accommodations.
- KEI cultural activities and field trips.
- Academic continuity in the event of COVID-related program interruptions.

The program must be able to provide:
• COVID-safe airport pick-up and transfer to housing.
• Access to quarantine housing upon entry (assuming quarantine is required). *
• Assistance/information on meal delivery, if quarantine on arrival is required.
• Access to masks, hand sanitizer, and cleaning supplies.
• COVID-safe transfers for KEI activities and field trips.
• Access to COVID testing. *
• Access to accommodation if isolation is necessary due to positive COVID test or exposure. *
• Medical insurance that covers COVID-related illness.

*Quarantine and isolation housing and COVID testing are not included in the KEI program fee.