

COVID-19 Guidelines/FAQs for AUIP programs

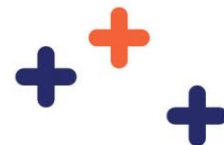
Version 8, updated on December 5, 2022

As always, the safety of our participants—faculty, staff, students, alumni, and other accompanying individuals—is paramount on AUIP faculty-led programs. To assist with preparing for your upcoming study abroad program, and as a supplement to our [Program Handbook](#) and [Faculty Handbook](#), we have prepared this guide covering key information related to COVID-19 and travel to the South Pacific, prepared to the best of our knowledge. Local protocols related to COVID-19 continue to evolve, so these general guidelines are subject to change and are only a summary. Country and State entry requirements may change without notice at any time. It is the sole responsibility of program participants to meet all passport, visa, vaccination, testing, declaration, and other entry requirements and to comply with all local, national, and supplier regulations throughout the program.

Insurances. As always, adequate medical, evacuation, and repatriation coverage is strictly required for all participants on AUIP programs. Please ensure that coverage includes care and treatment for COVID-19 at a minimum and also costs of quarantine/isolation if possible. Participants must bring official certificates and letters confirming their coverage dates and that COVID-19 medical care (such as hospitalization, medical transfer, and isolation) is included. Furthermore, comprehensive travel insurance including trip cancellation, disruption, and CFAR (cancel for any reason) coverage is *strongly recommended*.

Border status and visas. Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Argentina (for AUIP's Antarctica program) are open to US travelers. Please note that passport, visa, customs, and biosecurity requirements apply.

- For Australia, US citizens are required to obtain an [ETA \(Electronic Travel Authority\) visa](#) in advance of travel through the Australian ETA app. Note that travel agents are no longer able to apply for the ETA on travelers' behalf. All participants should apply for their visa via the app *well in advance*, as additional information or further processing may be requested at the Australian government's discretion. You will need to have your passport in hand at the time of completing the application via the app.
- For New Zealand, US citizens are required to obtain the [NZeTA visa](#) in advance and to also pay the accompanying conservation levy either online or through the app (which saves a few dollars).
- No visa is required for US citizens visiting Fiji or Argentina for a short time, but other entry requirements are in place.
- For all destinations, border officials have the right to request additional



documentation such as customs forms, additional forms of official photo identification (Argentina especially), proof of a return ticket, medical/travel insurance certificate, proof of accommodation, and evidence of sufficient funds.

- As always, non-US citizens need to check country visa requirements for their nationality and start the relevant application process straightaway, as the process may take much longer depending on the visa type.

COVID-19 vaccination. Consistent with the public health advice in our region, AUIP believes that full vaccination against COVID-19 is the best way for our participants and our communities to stay safe. It will also help ensure smooth delivery of the program and that participants will meet any requirements for their program.

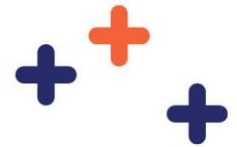
Program participants must meet all applicable COVID-19 vaccination requirements for their program, including country requirements (e.g. Fiji), operator requirements (e.g. Antarctica Program voyage), and airline requirements (e.g. Fiji airlines), providing official documentation of full vaccination as required.

For programs visiting destinations without a national vaccination requirement (e.g. Australia, New Zealand) AUIP *strongly recommends* full vaccination at least 21 days in advance of the program and getting booster doses when due. AUIP is not responsible for any health risks or exclusions from program activities due to vaccination status or inability to provide documentation when requested. AUIP will not be collecting or checking vaccination documentation directly unless requested by a program provider.

New Zealand – Since September 13th, 2022, travelers entering New Zealand are no longer required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination on arrival.

Australia - People entering Australia do not need to provide evidence of vaccination status. Unvaccinated travelers do not need to apply for a travel exemption to enter Australia. [See this page](#) for complete and current information about requirements for traveling to Australia.

Fiji - Fiji is only open to fully vaccinated travelers. Participants must display proof of full COVID-19 vaccination at airport check-in prior to departure for Fiji. Fully vaccinated means that you have received the recommended number of initial doses (usually 2) of a vaccine that Fiji recognizes (AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson and Johnson, Nuvaxovid (Novavax), Coronavac (Sinovac), Covishield, BBIBP-CorV (Sinopharm), Covaxin and Sputnik V. vaccines only). Vaccine booster shots are considered as additional protection to full vaccination. Travellers will also need to provide proof of travel insurance that includes COVID-19 coverage. [Read this page](#) for complete information about requirements for traveling to Fiji.



Antarctica - Full COVID-19 vaccination is strictly required for the AUIP Antarctica program. The voyage operator requires all guests to be fully vaccinated with an WHO approved vaccine a minimum of 14 days prior to departure. The currently approved vaccines are: Pfizer/BionTech, Moderna, AstraZeneca/Oxford, Sinopharm, Sinovac, Covaxin, Covovaxm Nucaxovid, and Johnson & Johnson. COVID-19 is present in Argentina. All our voyage guests are advised to avoid social gatherings, and events within the two weeks before the program. Vaccination certificates must be shown before boarding.

Airline requirements.

Please note that you must meet the requirements of any airline with which you are traveling to reach your program destination. For example, Fiji Airways still requires full vaccination. Note also that due to staffing pressures and additional requirements, airlines are recommending travelers to arrive at the airport four hours ahead of your international flight.

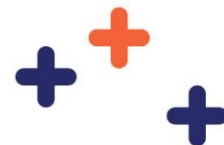
Pre-travel testing. International visitors to New Zealand, Australia, Fiji, and Argentina no longer need to show evidence of a negative result from a COVID-19 test to enter. However, taking a self-test within 24 hours before departure for your program is strongly recommended by AUIP. The US has also removed their pre-travel testing requirement.

Declaration form. COVID-19 Pre-departure forms are no longer required for New Zealand, Australia, Argentina, nor for returning to the US.

Testing on arrival and in-country. COVID-19 testing is no longer required after arriving in New Zealand, Australia, and Fiji. However, you will need to take a self-test if you have COVID-19 symptoms at any point during the program.

During your program, you may also be required to self-test prior to certain activities, homestays, or more remote destinations in your itinerary, or if you are a close contact of a positive case. COVID-19 testing (both PCR and RAT) is widely available in urban areas but limited in remote regions. Any costs of the tests and related transport are the responsibility of the participant. For convenience and to ensure a supply in all locations, all program participants are advised to bring 5-6 approved rapid antigen self-tests with them in their individual luggage.

AUIP Antarctica program participants will need to complete and submit a Health Declaration during the embarkation process. Additionally, while onboard the voyage, any guests showing symptoms or having had close contact with a positive case will be required to test. Guests must comply with Captain's/Medical Staff Person's orders and purchasing a test (at the participant's cost) may be required.



Should you experience COVID-19 symptoms or receive a positive result from a self-test at any point during the program, please isolate, wear a mask, and notify your faculty leader immediately. Contact numbers are provided on your AUIP Emergency Card. AUIP's 24/7 emergency line is +64 27.226.1851.

What to pack. Participants need to bring a personal travel health kit, including face masks for the duration of the program, hand sanitizer, [disinfectant](#) wipes, a thermometer, and 5-6 rapid antigen self-test kits for personal testing during their program. Better masks provide better protection, so N95 masks are recommended and medical-grade masks may be required in some venues.

Local protocols and information. All program participants must comply with local public health protocols throughout their time in-country, which may change at any time. Learn more about the current COVID-19 protocols here:

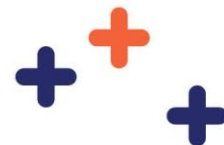
- [New Zealand](#)
- [New South Wales, Australia](#)
- [Queensland, Australia](#)
- [Fiji](#)
- [Argentina](#) (A guest briefing for the voyage protocols will be provided separately.)

The [Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center](#) is one place to find current global COVID-19 case numbers for your program destination.

Quarantine/isolation. In the event of [symptoms](#), a positive COVID-19 test, or as a close contact, participant(s) may need to isolate/quarantine during (and possibly beyond) the program, following the advice of the local public health authority. AUIP will work with housing providers and local authorities to identify a place to isolate with access to regular meals and medical care as needed. Please note that all additional costs incurred due to quarantine/isolation are solely the participants' responsibility, including but not limited to housing, meals, flight changes, and medical care. Additionally, refunds are not able to be provided for missed activities, including in the event of a positive test before departing for the program or activity. Again, we strongly recommend checking that insurance policies cover the costs of trip disruption and isolation and that participants consider this potential expense in their budget planning. Where possible, programs should have at least two faculty leaders to assist with supervision, in case either a student or faculty leader needs to isolate.

The local public health authority websites provide helpful and up-to-date summaries of what to expect if you test positive, which typically involves about 5-7 days of isolation for positive cases and a minimum of mask wearing and monitoring symptoms for close contacts:

- New South Wales, Australia



- For [person with COVID-19](#)
- For [close contacts of a positive case](#)
- Queensland, Australia
 - For [person with COVID-19](#)
 - For [close contacts of a positive case](#)
- New Zealand
 - For [person with COVID-19](#)
 - For [close contacts of a positive case](#)
- Fiji
 - For [person with COVID-19 and close contacts](#)
- Antarctica
 - For Argentina: [Isolation recommendation for persons with symptoms](#)
 - A briefing for the voyage protocols will be provided separately. Guests must comply with Captain's/Medical Staff Person's orders to isolate, which may include close contacts.

Face coverings/masks and other preventative measures. There are many things that participants can do to stay healthy during the program! For example, mask wearing is always recommended and local or activity provider protocols may require a mask to be worn at certain times, such on public transportation and in medical facilities, when social distancing is not possible, or if you have been exposed to a positive case. Participants must always carry a face mask with them and wear it when requested by your faculty leader, activity providers, guest speakers, site visit hosts, etc.

Daily health self-checks. Please monitor yourself for any COVID-19 symptoms. Practicing good handwashing and hygiene rules, getting ample sleep, and eating well are more important than ever when traveling abroad.

Thank you for taking the time to review this important information and the directions at each included link. Any unanswered questions or broken links? Please ask! We look forward to welcoming you to the South Pacific.