



IIRPS/SGPS COVID Response and Policy

February 25, 2023.

This page is updated regularly with any changes to pertinent global COVID requirements.

- There are currently no COVID-related entry requirements to Italy for US citizens.
- All citizens transitioning arriving or transitioning thru China must test negative.
- There are currently no COVID-related entry requirements to the US for US citizens.

The health and safety of our participants continue to be a priority as we monitor the global COVID pandemic. IIRPS and SGPS programs monitor and adhere to all requirements maintained by our collaborating organizations (see also [WVU Education Abroad COVID-19 Travel Policy](#)) as well as the [Italian](#) and [US Government agencies](#).

All SGPS participants must abide by the local health and safety guidelines, including vaccination requirements. **IIRPS will update and confirm with all participants COVID regulations one-month prior to the beginning of each program.**

SGPS applicants are currently no longer asked to provide COVID vaccination status prior to acceptance to the program, in accordance with SGPS adherence to requirements maintained by our collaborating organizations as well as the Italian Government. Applicants requiring exemptions due to documented medical reasons will need to contact Polly Withers.

SGPS participants are currently no longer required to show proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of the orientation day before classes start at the beginning of each session. Participants may be required to fill out a health screener and have their temperatures taken every Monday at the beginning of classes.

COVID Travel Guidelines and Compliances*

All students traveling internationally must comply with Italian expectations for travel, including testing mandates, prior to departure. There is currently no COVID-related entry requirements for to Italy for US citizens.

COVID-specific Safety Procedures*

- If a participant is not feeling well and is experiencing flu-like symptoms, please immediately tell a member of the SGPS staff. Put on a mask and keep mindful of others by self-distancing.
- If you don't know the vaccination status of the group, mask while indoors
- Mask while outdoors in large crowds
- Social distance when you can
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizer
- Comply with quarantining regulations during the program

* For general safety and travel guidelines, please see our Student Services webpage and our Travel Logistics document.



What happens if a participant or member of staff contracts COVID during the Program?

- If a participant is not feeling well and is experiencing flu-like symptoms, please immediately tell a member of the SGPS staff. Put on a mask and keep mindful of others by self-distancing.
- The **insurance** plan SGPS requires for participation covers COVID as any other illness. The policy would cover testing, medication, doctor visits and hospitalization. Testing is only covered if medically necessary, meaning if the participant is sick or showing symptoms. It is not covered for preventative measures like country entry.
- Participants may be required to **quarantine**, depending on current local regulations and depending on their specific case. SGPS will assist in finding accommodations, but this may incur extra housing fees for the participant. Applicants will be required to agree to pay these fees.
- If a member of **faculty** becomes sick, we have a virtual option with qualified teaching assistants continuing in-person workshops.