



Health Travel Policy for Domestic and International Trips

The following policy applies to all participants in Laboratory Schools' domestic or international trips in the Middle and High School:

- 1. Students' families should consider purchasing trip insurance.** If a student's travel arrangements must be canceled or altered in any way, for any reason, families will not be refunded any costs associated with the change/cancellation by the Schools; the only source of reimbursement will be the family's own trip insurance.
- 2. Students and chaperones must be healthy before departure:**
 - During the week leading up to the departure date, participants must inform the school if they have any symptoms of communicable illnesses. If such symptoms are present, consulting with your healthcare provider to determine if testing for COVID, strep, RSV, and/or influenza is strongly recommended.
 - Participants must comply with any health-related (or other) travel requirements imposed by the destination country/countries, air carriers, other public or private transportation providers, or other authorities. Note that some international destinations maintain vaccination or booster requirements for certain communicable diseases.
 - Students and chaperones are strongly encouraged to exercise increased caution the week before they travel. For example, avoid high-density activities and consider wearing a mask in all shared spaces. Make sure you are up-to-date with vaccinations/boosters.
 - Travelers must have access to their medical history.
 - Participants will be required to follow CDC guidelines regarding all communicable diseases.
- 3. If a student cannot depart on time with the group because of illness** (or any other reason), traveling separately to meet the group is not guaranteed, but may be permitted by the Principal as follows:
 - The decision to permit a late arrival at the destination is at the exclusive discretion of the Principal.
 - Factors will include an assessment of whether a late arrival is logistically possible without disrupting the trip or other participants.
 - The student's family is solely responsible for any additional cost (e.g., change/cancellation fees or additional travel expenses) not covered by the family's own trip insurance.



4. If a student becomes ill during the trip:

- While the trip is in progress, appropriate accommodations will be provided.
 - Local Domestic: Parents/guardians will be notified immediately and will be required to pick up their child within 6 hours of notification. A formal pick-up plan should be made prior to travel to ensure that this is set in place.
- At the conclusion of the trip, if a student cannot return with the group as scheduled, a Lab School chaperone will do the following:
 - Non-Local Domestic: Lab chaperone will stay at the destination with the child for approximately one day. If the child is unable to travel, their parent or guardian is expected to relieve the Lab chaperone.
 - Retreats and Camps: Families are required to pick up their child within six hours of notification of illness by the nurse.
 - International: Lab chaperone will stay at the destination with the child for up to three days. If the child is unable to travel, their parent or guardian is expected to relieve the Lab chaperone.
- At the conclusion of the trip, if a student must remain at the destination for a period of time, the student's family will be solely responsible for any associated costs (e.g., additional accommodations, change/cancellation fees, additional travel expenses). The only source of reimbursement will be the family's own trip insurance.