CIEE Vaccination Policy for Outbound Participants

CIEE values safety above all else. Therefore, CIEE will require ALL study abroad (college and high school), teach abroad, and gap year program participants to be fully vaccinated to minimize the health risk to participants, staff, and our worldwide communities.

All participants in CIEE high school and college study abroad, teach abroad, or gap year programs with start dates on or after October 1, 2021, must be fully vaccinated.

This policy will:

- Reduce the risk of serious illness and help prevent the spread of COVID-19, per guidance from the WHO and U.S. CDC.
- Reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 and its variants to other parts of the world and the communities in which we live and work.
- Reduce the risk of a participant being denied entry if a country requires vaccination for entry, and the risk of quarantine if that country requires it for unvaccinated travelers.
- Reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19 while abroad, which could lead to serious program and travel disruptions, as well as significant expense.
- Increase access to local events, services, and travel while abroad, which are becoming increasingly restrictive for non-vaccinated individuals.
- Significantly increase protection for all members of the CIEE community.

What does fully vaccinated mean?

In general, people are considered fully vaccinated:

- Two weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series, such as the Pfizer, Moderna, or Astra Zeneca vaccines, or
- Two weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.
- In some circumstances, proof of recovery from COVID-19 illness and resulting immunity is acceptable in lieu of full vaccination and a case may be presented to CIEE.

These guidelines apply to COVID-19 vaccines that have been fully approved, or approved for emergency use, by the United States Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”), and/or the World Health Organization.
How to report your COVID-19 vaccine

Participants must provide CIEE a copy of their CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card, or other acceptable form of proof, by uploading it to their CIEE MyAccount before the start of their program. If the participant is receiving a two-dose vaccine (e.g., Pfizer, Moderna, or AstraZeneca), the card or form of written proof should indicate that the participant has received both doses.

Accommodations

Participants may request an exemption or accommodation from the vaccination requirement for documented medical or deeply held religious reasons, or for any reasons protected by U.S. law by completing a CIEE Participant COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption Request Form that can be provided by the participant's CIEE advisor.

Each request for exemption or accommodation will be reviewed taking into consideration the particulars of the spread of the disease and the conditions of vaccination status of the host location. CIEE will review requests for exceptions based on its regularly updated Health and Safety policies and protocols. CIEE may not be able to accommodate such requests. Country laws, policies, and public health regulations supersede any CIEE requirements and fully apply for each destination.

Last Updated: August 17, 2021