

Internships and research projects abroad

Summary

Due to the great uncertainty surrounding the development and spread of the COVID-19 virus worldwide, and being no longer able to fall back on government and business travel insurance in the event of repatriation, (graduation) internships and research projects abroad are not allowed until 1 September 2021. Faculties can allow exceptions for countries with the travel advice colour codes yellow and green, if there is no alternative in The Netherlands and the consequences of cancelling are disproportionate. Currently, no permission will be granted to go to countries with colour codes orange and red. This decision based on the current corona pandemic situation will be reviewed at the beginning of May 2021.

Travel is at your own risk.

Following the modified Dutch government policy to no longer repatriate citizens in the event of a lockdown, any additional costs incurred and/or any further consequences, such as a delay to the study programme, are the student's own responsibility.

TU Delft's internship abroad policy

TU Delft's internship abroad policy is based on the travel advice from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Each travel advice has a rating that indicates how safe a country or area is. This is done with a colour code. There are four colour codes: **green**, **yellow**, **orange** and **red**. The colours give an idea of whether there is a security threat in the country or area. Due to the great uncertainty surrounding the development and spread of the COVID-19 virus worldwide, and being no longer able to fall back on government and business travel insurance in the event of repatriation, internships and research projects abroad are not allowed until 1 September 2021. Faculties can allow exceptions for countries with travel advice colour codes at yellow and green, if there is no alternative in The Netherlands and the consequences of cancelling are disproportionate. No permission will be granted to go to countries with colour codes at orange and red.

TU Delft has a duty of care regarding its students who travel abroad as part of their curriculum at TU Delft. In this context, the university is obliged to keep in touch with its students and to advise them (correct, complete and timely) on the actions to be taken. In the event of an unexpected change of colour code from green/yellow to Orange/Red, we provide students with the advice of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (BZ). This means students will be strongly advised to check whether the stay abroad is really necessary and whether there are options for going home. Many countries may take measures that could affect departure from that country. Download the [BZ Travel app](#) and check the [travel advice](#) regularly. More importantly, the student must keep a close eye on all national and international developments.

Should a student be unable to return to the Netherlands, they need to ensure they have safe accommodation, stay informed of local and national developments and inform the ESA and the Faculty internship coordinator/international office/supervisor of any changes to their plans. Should a student decide to remain where they are, they therefore confirm they are aware of the risks involved regarding travel, finance, insurance and the possible study consequences of their decision.

TU Delft Insurance

There are consequences for the TU Delft travel insurance which covers travel to countries with a green, yellow and orange travel advice. If claims are made in relation to Covid-19, the insurance will examine on a case-by-case basis whether there is cover, including the following point: has the student taken sufficient measures to prevent or minimize the medical risks. For example, adherence to the rules of the (local) governments and agencies, such as by staying away from large crowds.

Colour code changes or in the event of lockdown

Keep in mind that the situation can change quickly. If there is a major corona outbreak somewhere, a country or region can be locked down again. TU travel insurance has an exclusion clause for these situations. In the event that TU Delft travel insurance does not provide cover, all costs related to the stay (for example any costs in the event of repatriation, longer accommodation costs due to quarantine measures of local authority) are for the student's own expenses; All other possible consequences are for the student's own risk, for example the consequences for their study progress due to failure to return in time for (other) educational obligations.

You may have taken out extra travel insurance yourself. Check your travel insurance policy to clearly understand what the consequences are of not leaving for the insurance coverage. Also contact the airline and use the departure options that are still available. If you are unable to leave, ensure your accommodation is safe, possibly in consultation with the internship provider. If the travel advice changes from yellow to orange during your stay, check the [RIVM](#) and [BUZA](#) website for more information on whether you will need to self-quarantine upon your return.

Do you need help? You can contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs +31 247 247 247 or via the number of the Dutch embassy in the country where you are staying (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) or via Whatsapp +316 8238 7796. Students with a non-Dutch nationality can also contact the consulate/embassy of their own nationality for help. In the event of an incident during your stay abroad, you can also contact the TU Delft control room via +31 15 278 8888 or tu-iv@tudelft.nl

Detailed guidelines

(Graduation) internships/ research projects to countries with a **green** travel advice are possible. It is mandatory that students register their stay abroad in OSIRIS before departure (for instructions see web page <https://www.tudelft.nl/studenten/ondersteuning/study-internship-abroad/safety-insurance-vaccinations/>) and adhere to the conditions that their faculty places on the internship or research project.

(Graduation) internships / research projects to countries with a **red** or **orange** travel advice are not allowed.

Until further notice, TU Delft advises against (graduation) internships/ research projects to countries with a **yellow** travel advice, but if there is no alternative and the consequences of the cancellation of the (graduation) internship/ research project are disproportionate, then we allow this under the following exceptional conditions:

1. Approval (graduation) internship / research projects:
 - a. The internship coordinator/minor coordinator/internship supervisor / (graduation) lecturer/first supervisor (graduation) of the faculty in consultation with director of studies must approve the internship in advance.

- b. Physical internship on location abroad: the internship provider must be able to guarantee the quality and safety risks to prevent the spread of the Corona virus (see attachment with template) ; students are expected to report this back to the relevant internship office of the faculty. Therefore, the student must provide up to date documentation regarding the (local) Government measures and the measures taken within the working location of the student that guarantees their safety.
 - c. Internships on location abroad: students must follow the guidelines of the faculty and while on location also follow the guidelines with regard to COVID-19 that apply per country (this is the student's own responsibility)
2. The student is obligated to follow a travel safety training before the start of the (graduation) internship / research project. These courses will be offered online soon (more information about availability will be available on the web page <https://www.tudelft.nl/studenten/ondersteuning/study-internship-abroad/safety-insurance-vaccinations/>) Students who are already on an internship can exceptionally follow this training from their internship location.
3. The student is obligated to register the (graduation) internship / research project in OSIRIS (for more information about the registration procedure, see <https://www.tudelft.nl/studenten/ondersteuning/study-internship-abroad/safety-insurance-vaccinations/>) so that TU Delft knows where students can be reached in the event of an emergency and as a result of this, the stay will be covered by the travel insurance of TU Delft (under certain conditions, see below);
4. TU Delft Insurance. There are consequences for the TU Delft travel insurance which covers travel to countries with a green, yellow and orange travel advice. If claims are made in relation to Covid-19, the insurance will examine on a case-by-case basis whether there is cover, including the following point: has the student taken sufficient measures to prevent or minimize the medical risks. For example, adherence to the rules of the (local) governments and agencies, such as by staying away from large crowds.
5. In the event of a lock down, the Dutch government will not repatriate Dutch nationals. Keep in mind that the situation can change quickly. If there is a major corona outbreak somewhere, a country or region can be locked down again. TU travel insurance has an exclusion clause for these situations.
6. In the event that TU Delft travel insurance does not provide cover, all costs related to the internship stay (for example any costs in the event of repatriation) are for the student's own expenses;
7. All other possible consequences are for the student's own risk, for example the consequences for their study progress due to failure to return in time for (other) educational obligations.

TU Delft travel insurance Covid-19 related coverage

- *Cancellation in advance because the student / employee has corona:* **Covered** - provided this is the main reason for cancellation and the student was not already ill at the time of booking the trip.

- *Cancellation because the event has been cancelled due to corona:* **Not covered** – this is not included in the list of covered events
- *Cancellation because the country in question closes its borders due to corona:* **Not covered** – this is not included in the list of covered events
- *Longer accommodation costs due to quarantine measures of local authority:* **Not covered** – this is not included in the list of covered events
- *Medical costs because the student has incurred corona:* Coverage on the spot **Covered**
- *Repatriation of corona patient:* **Covered**, if necessary and it is possible to repatriate the patient. This entirely depends on the situation and restrictions. In many cases, a corona patient will not be allowed or be able to travel.
- *Repatriation of a healthy student as a precautionary measure:* **Not covered**

Information about the TU Delft travel insurance coverage is available at webpage <https://www.tudelft.nl/en/student/study-and-career/study-internship-abroad/safety-insurance-vaccinations/>.

If you have any questions about your (intended) internship / (graduation) internship / research project/field work, please contact Education and Student Affairs via os-tbm@tudelft.nl