

March 12, 2020 - 12:15 AM (CST)

Dear Encuentro Dominicano Comunidad 29 Students:

This is not the message we had hoped to be sending you!

On March 11, 2020, President Donald Trump announced broad travel restrictions from travelers from European countries within the Schengen Area. The [U.S. Department of Homeland Security](#) clarified the ban does not include U.S. citizens or permanent residents from returning to the United States.

Later, the U.S. Department of State announced a [Global Level 3 Health Advisory: Reconsider Travel](#). The U.S. Centers for Disease Control issued a [Warning Level 3: Avoid Nonessential Travel](#) alert for Europe.

ACTION:

Therefore, and in accordance with Creighton [University's Travel Policy](#), we have requested that all students currently studying abroad or participating in other curricular and non-curricular programs return to the United States immediately.

NEXT STEPS

Students are asked to ***return to their home address*** rather than to the Omaha campus. Their home states may have implemented screening and monitoring procedures for COVID-19 disease, so they are advised to check with their home state's Department of Health. A list for all States is available [HERE](#).

Many of you have already contacted us with a request you be permitted to remain in your host country to complete your academic term. The unpredictability of the unfolding pandemic and of strategies various countries are instituting to contain the COVID-19 disease make it impossible for us to be reasonably reassured students will have the needed academic, personal and emergency services to complete their studies abroad.

Therefore, **Creighton University will be moving its Encuentro Dominicano program to an online format for the remainder of the semester, which requires you to return home.**

DEPARTURE

Encuentro Dominicano personnel are already devising a transition plan for you to close your time in the Dominican Republic and get ready to depart to the U.S. on **Wednesday, March 18th**. For those of you enrolled in the PUCMM class, Creighton University will seek to assist you in completing this course in an alternative format through PUCMM first. If that is not possible, we will seek alternative plans.

Finally, please e-mail the Encuentro Dominicano Academic Director with your departing flight information as soon as you have it. Many airlines are waiving the change fee at this moment, so make sure you ask for that.

Before you return to campus, please visit the GEO website at <http://www.creighton.edu/geo/coronavirus/> to see if there any additional requirements the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has asked us to put in place.

We look forward to hearing from you as soon as you are able.

Dr. Padilla

PS: Student emergency contacts have been blind copied on this message

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