

## American Councils Study and Research Abroad COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

This policy applies to the following American Councils Programs:

*Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program (RLASP), Russian Heritage Speaker Program (HS), Eurasia Regional Language Program (ERLP), Balkan Language initiative (BLI), Taiwan Intensive Summer Intensive Language Program (TISLP), Korean Intensive Summer Language Program (KISLP), Overseas Professional and Intercultural Training Program (OPIT), Customized Programs*

To help ensure the health and safety of program participants, host family members, faculty, language partners, tutors, and staff, and to protect the communities at large hosting our overseas programs, American Councils Study Abroad requires that all participants be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before departure to their overseas site.

To confirm vaccination status, participants are required to provide copies of their vaccination cards as part of their acceptance materials. To be fully vaccinated, a student must have completed a full course of a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved vaccine. In addition, American Councils strongly suggests that all participants receive COVID-19 boosters before overseas travel, as recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Controls and Prevention (CDC). For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.htm>

Fully vaccinated students remain subject to COVID-mitigation policies implemented by host universities, the U.S. government, foreign governments, and American Councils. These policies may include requirements to maintain social distancing, to wear facial coverings, to limit travel, to avoid crowded public venues, to undergo temperature checks and COVID-19 testing, and to quarantine.

To request vaccination accommodation, a participant must submit a written request to the manager of their American Councils Study Abroad program within seven (7) days of admission to the program in question, stating the reason for the request and including all available documentation supporting it, including relevant medical records and educational records reflecting that the participant's home school and/or employer has granted a vaccine accommodation, where applicable.

Firmly committed to providing broad access to its overseas programs, American Councils provides reasonable accommodation to all participants where it is able to do so. However, conditions in the countries hosting American Councils Study Abroad programs, including rates of COVID-19 infection and availability of medical care, may severely limit our ability to meet some accommodation requests, even if these accommodations are provided at the participant's U.S. educational institution or place of work. When possible, in such instances, American Councils will provide alternative placement or deferred admission to a program.