

Direzione Innovazione e Internazionalizzazione Area Internazionalizzazione - Sezione UNITA e Mobilità Internazionale

Fact Sheet for outgoing UniTO students a. y. 2022/2023

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In the case of conflicting meanings between language versions, the Italian version prevails.

This Fact Sheet is for all University of Turin students who are abroad studying, doing internships or working on research and is part of the University's efforts to protect its community's safety and health during international mobility programmes.

The information below refers to both general and special standards regarding any emergency conditions. So in view of the ever-changing situation, they may be subject to review following further provisions by relevant authorities.

This fact sheet also aims to provide instructions for students starting a mobility experience abroad at a partner university and to being fully aware of the risks that exist during these uncertain times and any inconvenience that may occur.

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1 - VIRTUAL AND BLENDED MOBILITY

UniTO also allows "blended" mobility (both virtual from the home country and abroad). For example, if safety conditions in the host country do not allow students to leave at the beginning of the semester, the student can start the mobility semester in Turin/at home and attend the host University's lessons online, if available. This way departure will be postponed and the mobility abroad will start when conditions allow.

Should any emergency occur and participants cannot complete their mobility programme abroad, the entire programme online (virtual mobility) will also be eligible for academic recognition.

UniTO guarantees academic recognition of the educational activities whether they are blended and/or virtual, provided they are consistent with the participant's academic path and agreed in the Learning Agreement for Studies/Traineeships. The European Commission (New Programme Guide Erasmus 2021-2027) and INDIRE the National Erasmus Plus Agency state that only mobility abroad will be financed, so:

- <u>Completely virtual mobility</u>: the participant does not receive any contribution;
- <u>Blended mobility</u>: the participant receives contributions for the actual days of mobility abroad;
- <u>Mobility abroad</u>: the participant receives contributions for the entire period of mobility abroad. Virtual mobility carried out from the hosting country is considered as mobility abroad, so the participant receives contributions.

2 - SAFE INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY - STEP BY STEP

2.2 - BEFORE YOUR MOBILITY

 UniTO recommends participants check the destination country's safety conditions and in particular its health conditions. It also advises referring to the information on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation portal - MAECI (<u>https://www.esteri.it/mae/it</u>)- and the <u>"Viaggiare Sicuri"</u> website (<u>http://www.viaggiaresicuri.it/</u>) to determine each country's safety status. Participants going to European Union destinations, should consult the website <u>"Re-open EU"</u> (<u>https://reopen.europa.eu/it</u>).

Students must also keep up to date with conditions in the destination country when arriving from Italy (or current country of residence) and when returning to Italy from the host country eg quarantine, restrictions, etc. Students must contact UniTO immediately should safety conditions change.

2. Make sure you have a **valid document and visa** to enter and stay in the destination country (<u>http://www.viaggiaresicuri.it/approfondimenti-insights/documentidiviaggio</u>)



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IMPORTANT - for NON-European students

Check your **residence permit expiry date** as you will have to re-new it if it expires before you go abroad or during your mobility programme. In fact, some Partner Institutions require non-EU students to have already renewed their residence permit or provide documentation proving that they have applied, otherwise their application will be rejected. Contact <u>office.incoming@unito.it</u> for help and support about residence permits.

- 3. Check obligatory COVID-19 safety measures, if any, to enter the country (i.e. Green Pass, swab test, compulsory self-isolation, etc.).
- 4. Check obligatory and recommended vaccinations so you will be allowed entry to the destination country from <u>Health Ministry website</u>
- 5. Go to your local ASST to find out about **possible health risks** in the destination country, the **preventative measures** you should take before departure, necessary or recommended vaccinations in order to obtain a clean bill of health certificate. Students should independently consider purchasing insurance cover that guarantees repatriation for medical reasons, reimbursement of medical expenses and typical additional "travel" policy guarantees.
- 6. If you are going to an EU country, check what is covered by the **European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)** which temporarily admits all EU citizens and those from Switzerland, Iceland and Norway and allows them direct access to the host country's health services on the same terms as residents. Some benefits may be provided indirectly, i.e. paying costs on the spot or obtaining a subsequent reimbursement from your local ASL. Check your National Health Card for the dates you are covered for a stay abroad.

IMPORTANT - for European students

The EHIC does not cover repatriation to your country of residence for medical reasons. Students should independently consider purchasing insurance cover that guarantees repatriation for medical reasons, reimbursement of medical expenses and typical additional "travel" policies guarantees. If you take out private insurance, check the conditions related to the COVID-19 health emergency.

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IMPORTANT - for NON-European students

Non-EU students enrolled at UniTO do not have similar health coverage outside Italy, even if they have EHIC, so they will have to take out private health insurance coverage.

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- 7. Students must take out health insurance coverage when going to non-EU countries as well as checking COVID-19 health emergency conditions.
- 8. Register on MAECI's <u>"Dove siamo nel mondo"</u> site (<u>https://www.dovesiamonelmondo.it/</u>)
- 9. Download MAECI's App "Unità di Crisi" for any updated information about countries at risks.
- 10. Check the developments planned for the semester at the Host Institute. Check how lessons and training activities are delivered (ie in-presence/online/blended), facilities (canteen, university accommodation, libraries, etc.) and any restrictions and specific requests imposed by the Host Institute (e.g. obligation to take out certain insurance coverage). This information is on Erasmus+ Covid-19 Mobility Status (https://covid.uni-foundation.eu/), the Partner Institute's website and by contacting it via email, help-desks, phone, etc.
- 11. Find out about the safety rules in force both in the country and the Host Institution.
- 12. Students are advised to purchase **refundable travel tickets** and inquire in advance about booking university accommodation or renting private accommodation and the possible conditions of **returning the deposit** in case of delay or cancellation.
- 13. Find out about your **destination country's customs and laws** by visiting travel guides or the <u>"Viaggiare Sicuri"</u> website (<u>http://www.viaggiaresicuri.it/home.html</u>)
- 14. Save contact references for the Italian embassy or consulate in the destination country. In case of an emergency, record location and phone numbers on your phone, inside your passport and safely online.
- 15. Add a family or friend's **contact** to your passport in case of an **emergency**.
- 16. Check with your **mobile** phone provider about coverage when **abroad**.
- 17. Give friends and family your contacts abroad and travel itinerary.
- 18. Make sure that you are able to pay using different payment methods.
- 19. Check your driving license is valid should you need to drive abroad.
- 20. Make multiple copies of your passport and travel documents as well as useful contact numbers and save them online.



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- 21. Carry copies of your usual medical prescriptions showing your health conditions.
- 22. Indicate any allergies on your passport, online or wearable device.

2.2 - DURING YOUR STAY

- 1. Follow the safety rules very carefully in the Host country and Institution, respecting the rules and possible restrictions in force.
- 2. Stay up to date on the conditions in the destination country when arriving from Italy (or your normal country of residence) and when returning to Italy from the host country eg possible quarantine, restrictions, etc. Students should get in touch with UniTO immediately should safety conditions change.
- 3. Should you have an accident, immediately notify <u>infortuni@unito.it</u>, the International Mobility Office (<u>internationalexchange@unito.it</u>) and your UniTO department, so that the relevant office can report it to INAIL. Should you have private injury insurance, the event will still be reported to the relevant office, although it is your responsibility to send the documentation promptly proving the accident (medical certification, description of the event) to both <u>infortuni@unito.it</u> and <u>internationalexchange@unito.it</u>.

NB: The University's accident insurance policy also covers injuries caused by civil war, war, invasion, enemy acts, hostility (whether war has been declared or not) for a maximum period of 14 days from the beginning of hostilities, if and because the insured person is surprised by the outbreak of war while abroad.

- 4. Do not leave valuables unattended.
- 5. Be careful when taking photographs, making videos or using binoculars as this can be misunderstood by local authorities, especially if they are near military barracks.
- 6. Respect the Host country's customs and traditions.
- 7. Give news of yourself regularly to your contacts in Italy.
- 8. Check the Host country's rules for importing/exporting food and plants.
- 9. In the event of a serious attack, armed insurgency or state of war, you are advised to stay in your home and/or hotel temporarily and try to communicate your position to the local Italian Diplomatic Representative. Be cautious and keep up to date with the local safety conditions, contacting the Italian Embassy if necessary and following the local authorities' advice.

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3 - FOCUS UNIVERSITY INSURANCE COVERAGE

The University has taken out the following policies in its efforts to protect students:

- the **RCTO Policy** provides insurance for **damages** as students are civilly liable during their university courses;

- the **Accident Guarantee Policy** provides appropriate insurance coverage against **accidents** that students might have during their university activities both on University premises and elsewhere, IF AUTHORIZED, outside the University, both in Italy and abroad. For example, but not only, facilities, industrial or research laboratories, other Universities offices or Research Institutes etc, where students might be studying, visiting or carrying out experiments, complementary and extra activities, in accordance with policy conditions.

NB Accident policies do not generally cover the equivalent of accidents or occupational diseases, so only fortuitous, direct and external events (injury) are covered. Since this policy has the "occupational diseases" clause, any infection may fall in this area. We are, however, obliged to point out that, since there is no precedent or legal norm in this matter to be contested by those who write the insurers' "defensive" strategy on the subject, such coverage for COVID-19 cases will inevitably be determined by medical-legal issues.

4 - INAIL COVERAGE

The University is required to report accidents involving students in such cases specified below. INAIL insurance is managed on behalf of the State and is only relevant if students undertake technical and scientific activities, practical and physical exercise. Accidents that may have occurred to students during theoretical classroom lessons are therefore excluded from INAIL protection.

Should you have an accident, you will need a certificate issued by a hospital or GP on an INAIL form. The medical certificate issued abroad must be translated into English (or Italian) before it is sent to the University's offices.

Students are responsible for sending their documentation proving the accident (medical certificate, description of the event) to both <u>infortuni@unito.it</u> and <u>internationalexchange@unito.it</u> as early as possible.