

**COVID-19 | Travel Policy email**  
**March 6, 2020**

Dear Stanford Earth community,

I write to share our policy about travel in these confusing times. Our goal is to enhance the safety of the Earth community and reduce spread of COVID-19. Best wishes for your good health. --Steve

**Stanford Earth COVID-19 Travel Policy**, as of March 6, 2020

Our goal is to enhance the safety of the Stanford Earth community and reduce spread of COVID-19

**Stanford-sponsored international travel:**

Not allowed in general.

Exemptions will be rare, but may be allowed in certain circumstances if approved by the Dean.

**What exemptions are allowed, what are not?**

Potentially allowed: Field work, survey work which is sensitive to timing or involves contract considerations.

For those cases, what is required of the petitioner?

- Compelling argument for urgency
- Evaluation by advisor (for grad students and postdocs)
- [Register travel with the University](#) AND [Stanford Earth](#)
- Contingency travel and health-safety plans during overseas work
- Acknowledgement of risks and possible delays in re-entry to the US and of quarantine upon return

Not allowed: Non-essential meetings.

Includes events ranging from small research meetings of several people to large professional society meetings.

- For small meetings, re-schedule or consider Skype, Zoom meetings as alternatives
- For larger meetings, if registration fees have already been paid out-of-pocket and aren't being refunded, the advisor (for students and postdocs), department/program, or school (in that order) will provide reimbursement.
- The same is true for previously paid out-of-pocket travel and lodging expenses.

**Stanford-sponsored domestic travel:**

Non-essential university-sponsored domestic travel is discouraged to reduce Stanford's contribution to the potential spread of infection. Consider alternate means of conducting business. Travel associated with our academic mission, such as field trips or field research, is permitted at this time. Please register trips with the School.

**Personal travel, international and domestic:**

Use good judgment, but be aware that international travel could come with 14-day quarantine upon return.