



GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL (LEVEL 1)

This document addresses guidelines and recommendation for:

- Staff travelling abroad
- Students travelling abroad
- Incoming Visiting Delegations and Incoming International Student Mobility
- Travel advisory

1. STAFF TRAVELLING ABROAD:

Business Travel is permitted under Level 1 with a lifting of the SU institutional travel ban from the 1st of November.

If you are planning on travel for business reasons, please consider:

- Visa requirements for the country you are travelling to
- Note any additional requirements such as a negative COVID-19 PCR test result within 72 hours of travel, including for re-entry to SA
- Ensure that you have sufficient medical and travel insurance
- Plan for contingencies, especially possible delays or cancellation of flights, a change in risk status of the country you have travelled to and possible repercussions in terms of returning to South Africa (consult the list of countries on South Africa's banned country list which is also updated every 2 weeks) and other possible contingencies
- Some countries require self-quarantine upon arrival – make sure you get the detail on the destination country
- Motivation regarding travel (i.e. that the purpose of the visit cannot be achieved through remote or virtual working) must be provided to RC Head
- Clearance from your line manager for return-to-work and confirmation that you have met all requirements
- Consult the registry of COVID high risk countries and try to avoid travel to countries identified as COVID high risk countries. This CDC list is updated regularly.

To note that South Africa is on this list and that this may impact incoming travel (international delegations, staff appointments, semester mobility and other non-degree mobility)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html>

2. STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TRAVELLING ABROAD

- Student Mobility is to resume once students are able to get the necessary visa and other clearance required to enable mobility.
- Please consult the Global Education Office (bantu@sun.ac.za) regarding the status of applications and nominations to your chosen university as many partner universities are cancelling incoming exchanges up until August 2021
- Students returning from a flight abroad, should meet the requirements as set out by the regulations from the returning country (s) before returning to campus and work.

- At the moment, students (going through GEC) on an exchange or attending a summer school must complete a student mobility agreement.

It is further recommended that:

- Students and staff must complete a travel registry if they are flying abroad. Please contact Lidia Du Plessis at lidia@sun.ac.za for details.
- They must provide proof of medical insurance.

3. INCOMING VISITING DELEGATIONS AND INCOMING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY

Stellenbosch University will accept visiting delegations with effect from January 2021 and International Students with immediate effect under Level 1, subject to students having the required visas/ permits and having met the national regulatory requirements on immigration and entry. Students who intend to return to campus should have received an invitation letter to return to campus and need to adhere to return to campus protocols.

Requirements to enter South Africa

- Eligible travellers must present a paper copy of a negative PCR test result for COVID-19 that is **less than 72 hours old at the time of departure**. This test must be conducted by a certified medical practitioner and should have the name and signature of the practitioner who conducted such test.
- Everyone must install a [government contact tracing app](#) and show proof of a confirmed accommodation booking
- Students need to register on the above app and complete the Higher Health screening test healthcheck.higherhealth.ac.za
- Students who enter through a South African land border and who do not have a valid PCR test will be required to self-quarantine at their own cost.
- International travellers are required to have mandatory travel insurance that covers the cost of a COVID-19 test (for those showing symptoms) and quarantine costs
- Contact Campus Health should you suspect that you are ill or to find out where to get a COVID-test <http://www.sun.ac.za/english/CampusHealth/covid-19> or call 021 808 3494/6

4. TRAVEL ADVISORY

4.1. Countries that staff and students can travel to

Subject to the travel requirements of a country of destination, a passenger must provide to the Operator a negative PCR test certificate or a valid COVID -19 negative test certificate from an accredited laboratory certified by the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority ("SAHPRA") An Operator is responsible to ensure that passengers comply with COVID -19 requirements of the country of destination.

4.2. Business visa regulations for Schengen countries under covid-19

Business travel is allowed in all countries but Czech Republic.

Proof of negative PCR based COVID-19 test taken in no more than 72 hours before travel must be provided.

Most countries require invitation letter from any public or private corporation before entering.

Click here for [business visa requirements](#)

The EU Council's list of epidemiologically safe third countries is a list of non-EU/EEA countries which are considered safe amid the Coronavirus pandemic, these countries can travel to any Schengen country for non-essential purposes.

Click here for [EU safe countries list](#). The list is updated every two weeks.

4.3. Countries that we can accept staff and students from

International travel from countries listed as having a high COVID-19 infection and transmission rate, are prohibited, **except for business travel**. Any person from a country listed as having a high COVID-19 infection and transmission rate, who wish to undertake a **business travel** into South Africa, may with effect from 01 October 2020, in writing, apply to the Minister of Home Affairs and state reasons for their request to enter the country for business purposes during the period of the national state of disaster.

Such applications must be directed to Covid19BusinessTravel@dha.gov.za and supported by

1. a copy of passport and/or temporary residence visa
2. proof of business activities to be undertaken in the Republic
3. proof of travel itinerary
4. proof of address or accommodation in the Republic.

4.4. Countries that are not allowed to enter the South Africa

People who are not allowed from high risk countries **are leisure travellers only**. List of [high risk countries \(identified here\)](#). The list will be revised **every two** weeks.

They can only be allowed to enter the Republic if they have spent 10 days or more in a low or medium risk country before departure.

4.5. Visa regulations

South African missions abroad will open for [visa applications](#), and all long-term visas will be reinstated. Contact the local South African High Commission for more information.

Link to the gazette: [Gazette 43752 of 1 October 2020](#)

CSIER/ICBC
20 October 2020