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Thank you for your interest in the Temple Rome Spring 2021 program. The Temple Rome staff and faculty look forward to welcoming students to Italy in January.

Over the next several weeks, we will provide information to assist accepted students with pre-departure preparations, including details about health and safety preparations and protocols. At this time, we would like to answer some frequently asked questions about travel and deposits.

Are U.S. citizens permitted to enter Italy?

U.S. citizens who are entering Italy for the purposes of study are permitted to enter Italy, as explained on the U.S. Embassy in Italy's website:

Current travel restrictions on entry into Italy are linked to several factors, including one’s country of departure and purpose of travel. Non-essential travel (i.e., tourism) to Italy from most non-EU countries (including the United States) is prohibited. **Essential travel is allowed and includes students, businesspersons, EU residents, and relatives of Italian citizens.**

All program participants are required to enter Italy with a student visa; we provide detailed visa application guidance and support to accepted students. Please visit our website for preliminary passport and visa information.

As there is always a possibility immigration rules can change, we continue to monitor entry guidance and will update students as necessary.

I’m not a U.S. citizen. Am I permitted to enter Italy?

Please contact Temple Rome Program Manager, Rosemary Carlson for guidance (rosemary.carlson@temple.edu).
If I don’t have a valid passport, will I be able to participate in the Spring 2021 program?

The pandemic has significantly affected passport processing operations as explained on the [Department of State website](https://travel.state.gov). All program participants must have a valid passport* by mid-October in order to submit a visa application on time.

- If you have already submitted your passport application, please consult with Education Abroad to further discuss your individual circumstances and timeline.

- The Department of State expects to resume normal passport processing times at some point this fall, but no date has been set, and expedited processing will not begin until the passport agencies are in phase 3 of their reopening. Therefore, at this time, if you have not already submitted your passport application, it is unlikely that you will receive your passport in time. Please refer to the [Department of State website](https://travel.state.gov) for updates.

*For Italy, your passport must be valid for at least three months beyond the end of your stay in the Schengen area.

Will personal travel outside of Italy be permitted during the Spring 2021 program?

Program participants should expect personal travel outside of Italy to be prohibited or restricted due to health or safety concerns and/or governmental regulations.

As a result of these restrictions, Spring 2021 participants should plan to have a fully Italian immersive experience that does not include travel outside of Italy.

We understand that this may be disappointing. However, we hope students will see this as an opportunity to embrace Italian culture and complete the semester feeling more like a local than a visitor.

Temple Rome faculty and staff are looking forward to sharing countless ways to explore Rome and other unique areas in Italy so that students can make the most out of their experience. As the Romans say, “Roma, una vita non basta,” or, one life is not enough to see everything there is to see in Rome.

Is the $200 program deposit refundable?

We have modified our program deposit policy for Spring 2021 to give students as much flexibility as possible.

**Temple students:** Students must inform Education Abroad by email of their intent to withdraw from the program for any reason by **December 15th, 2020**. The $200 program deposit for Temple Rome will be applied to a student’s spring semester balance on their Temple account. If
there is no balance on their account, any refund will be returned to the student via direct deposit or paper check based on the preference set up for their Temple account.

Non-Temple students: Up until **December 15th, 2020**, students may withdraw from the program for any reason and not lose their $200 program deposit. If students withdraw after December 15th, the program deposit is non-refundable. Students must inform Education Abroad by email of their intent to withdraw from the program by **December 15th, 2020**. We strongly recommend that students sign up for direct deposit (instructions in their online account) in order to avoid delays with processing any refunds. Otherwise, refunds will be distributed via physical check in the mail.

All students: If Temple University cancels the program for any reason up until the start of the semester, the program deposit will be applied to the Temple student account or refunded to the Non-Temple student as outlined above.

What can I expect from the pre-departure process?

Accepted students will see the **Dates and Deadlines** document in their online study abroad account. This document provides a timeline for pre-departure postings, preparations and deadlines. Note that some timelines may need to be adjusted in response to changing circumstances, but participants will be informed of any changes well in advance.

Some pre-departure submissions originally due on October 26 are now due on October 22. We advise students to download and refer to the new version as this deadline will be firm.

In the coming weeks, we will provide further information about health and safety preparations and protocols. Students with any questions or concerns may contact us at any time (see below for contact information).

A combination of mandatory and optional virtual pre-departure sessions will be held October-December (dates will be provided to accepted students).

How can I learn more about the program?

- Join us at one of our upcoming virtual events, hosted by Education Abroad and Temple Rome staff.
- Temple Rome family chat (details coming soon)

Who can applicants contact with questions about the program?

If you would like to meet with Temple Rome Program Manager, Rosemary Carlson, please visit the Education Abroad virtual front desk to set up an appointment. Alternatively, you may contact Rosemary by email at rosemary.carlson@temple.edu. We look forward to working with you as you plan for your Spring 2021 Semester in Rome!