Temple University, Japan Campus Study Abroad - Fall 2021

April 29, 2021

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Thank you for your interest in studying at Temple University, Japan Campus this fall; we hope this message finds you well.

This update contains important information about the Fall 2021 program in Tokyo. Please read it in its entirety.
Students participating in the Academic Year program (both fall and spring semesters): Note that this message focuses on your fall semester; more information about the spring semester will be shared when it is available.

While we recognize this won’t be a typical study abroad experience, we are fully committed to making it a successful one, most importantly by implementing additional health and safety plans and protocols.

We want to be sure that students planning to participate in our programs are well-prepared and have realistic expectations for their upcoming term abroad.

We know that you and your families have many questions and will continue to have additional questions as we move through the pre-departure process in the coming months.

Contact Education Abroad staff via email or by making an appointment through our virtual front desk if you have any questions or specific concerns. We are here to help you now or at any time.

Program Status and Review
Temple University closely monitors conditions related to COVID-19 and other health and safety issues that might impact our international travelers. Temple reviews information from government organizations such as the US Department of State, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as our emergency services provider, International SOS, to determine whether we can support travel to and study in a particular location. Our staff also considers border and travel restrictions, local conditions including medical infrastructure and capacity, program infrastructure and student support capabilities, health and safety measures, program provision for quarantine/isolation accommodations, and ability to ensure academic continuity in making decisions about program status and continuity.

The TUJ administration works with Temple University Main Campus leadership, Risk Management, and Education Abroad and consults with local Japanese authorities and health experts to continuously monitor conditions in Japan related to COVID-19 and to ensure that appropriate protocols and practices are in place for our Japan Campus. Since the inception of the pandemic, TUJ has not had any COVID-19 transmission in our classrooms or facilities.

While we continue to plan for the Temple Japan (TUJ) Fall 2021 study abroad program, and are hopeful we will be able to move forward, U.S. citizens are not currently permitted entry into Japan for study or tourism purposes, and visas are not being processed by consulates. Immigration restrictions have recently been relaxed for athletes and certain individuals involved in the Tokyo 2021 Olympics. The Japanese government has been reviewing restrictions on a weekly basis, and we will update you of any changes as they become available.

We remain hopeful that Japan will reopen its borders to students soon. However, if restrictions are not eased and Certificate of Eligibility (COE)/visa operations have not resumed by July 1, the study abroad program will not be feasible as there will not be enough time to obtain student visas within the
scheduled departure time frame. We will notify students of the status of the Fall 2021 TUJ study abroad program by **July 1st**.

Please see flight booking and contingency sections (below) for additional information.

**Expectations**

Studying abroad will be different in Fall 2021, and some of the expectations you had when you decided to study abroad may have to be adjusted and adapted. However, with your patience and flexibility, our core mission of providing global opportunities can be realized.

The trajectory or impact of COVID-19 we experience in our home countries or regions may not be the same, or even similar, elsewhere. As we have seen throughout the pandemic, the prevalence of COVID-19 and government responses to it vary significantly from location to location, as do access to and administration of vaccines.

Although learning firsthand how host countries address current-day challenges has always been an integral part of study abroad, it is undoubtedly a unique time to live in another country, as the ways that a host country responds to COVID-19 - from laws related to immigration and travel to regulations affecting daily life - will have a direct impact on students’ experiences.

Education Abroad and Temple Japan will make every effort to keep program participants updated about plans for the fall term. Please note that all outlined protocols, scenarios, and activities presented are based on what we know now about the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the study abroad experience. We may have to revise information shared with students as the COVID-19 situation evolves or as unanticipated challenges arise.

In this update, we reference several requirements and expectations that are specific to Japan’s COVID-19 control measures. It is important to note that almost everyone in Japan wears masks, and other COVID-19 related countermeasures are carefully followed across the country. We expect nothing less than the same from our study abroad participants. In fact, it is important to follow the example of your hosts in the country.

Additionally, as the sponsor of student visas, TUJ must pledge to take responsibility for students’ actions and could face severe consequences imposed by the Japanese government if any of its students fail to abide by the rules, especially rules related to entry or quarantine. Therefore, we want to emphasize how important it is for all students on the program to follow the instructions and rules prior to departure and while in Japan.

We communicate major program changes and pre-departure requirements through your Temple email; it is your responsibility to monitor your email for these updates. Also, please take a moment to confirm that the emergency contact information submitted in your application is correct and current as we send program updates to your emergency contacts’ emails when necessary.
We ask for your full cooperation during the pre-departure process and encourage you to contact our office if you have any questions or concerns.

Program Dates
Fall semester classes officially commence on August 30, 2021. Please note at this time that the Fall 2021 program travel dates are not yet confirmed. They are subject to change and will be confirmed when the program status is announced.

At this time, we do anticipate that study abroad student arrivals would take place over a period of several days in mid-August to account for several factors that could impact travel such as limited flight availability, longer visa processing times, and difficulty in timing test results and travel arrangements.

Certificate of Eligibility and Visa
All fall 2021 participants will be required to apply for a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) and student visa in order to attend the program. Detailed instructions about the COE are posted to applicants’ online study abroad accounts. COE applications are due on May 5; this deadline is firm. Please contact Program Manager Maddy Sullivan (madelyn@temple.edu) with any questions.

Around the time that COEs are issued, Education Abroad will provide instructions on how to obtain a student visa.

Current Situation in Tokyo and Japan
- Temple Japan campus facilities and administrative offices are open. TUJ operated this spring semester with over one-third of undergraduate classes held on campus and the remainder online. TUJ was excited to welcome our Spring 2021 study abroad cohort. TUJ will be operating this summer for students who are currently in Japan. At this point, TUJ plans on holding 40-50% of its classes in person. However, we had to cancel the TUJ summer 2021 study abroad program due to current entry restrictions enacted after spring students arrived. To read more about TUJ operations, visit the TUJ homepage.
- The number of COVID-19 cases in Japan fluctuates but has been very low in comparison with many countries around the world. The government has issued periodic state of emergency measures in Tokyo and the surrounding areas in response to rising case numbers. The measures, implemented to reverse trends and keep COVID-19 cases down, focus primarily on the operating hours of businesses that are most susceptible to the virus, such as bars and restaurants.
- Although serious cases of COVID-19 remain extremely low in Tokyo (at the time of this writing, approximately 60 people in a city of 13.5 million) and hospital capacity is plentiful, Tokyo recently entered into another soft state of emergency in advance of a week of national holidays (Golden Week) and the arrival of the head of the International Olympic Committee. There is a desire to minimize COVID-19 cases in Tokyo -- especially in advance of the Olympics. As a result, large commercial businesses like department stores, shopping centers, and movie theaters in Tokyo have been asked to voluntarily close during the national holiday period. Such businesses in
the suburbs remain open. Companies and organizations are being encouraged to adopt remote working to the extent possible. Schools are open. As an additional precaution, during states of emergency, the local government asks everyone to refrain from non-essential excursions after 8 pm. Current state of emergency measures are scheduled to remain in effect through May 11, 2021.

- Despite relatively low case numbers, the Centers for Disease Control continues to advise U.S. travelers that the risk of COVID-19 in Japan is high. This week, the U.S. Department of State updated its Japan Level 3 advisory to align more fully with the CDC’s COVID-19 information for Japan. This update does not signify a change in conditions on the ground, and Temple continuously reviews conditions for travel as described above.
- Up-to-date COVID-19 data for Tokyo can be accessed through the Tokyo Metropolitan Government website.
- Up-to-date COVID-19 data for all of Japan can be accessed through the World Health Organization website.
- Additional COVID-19 information in English can be found on the following sites:
  - Tokyo Metropolitan Government COVID-19 Information
  - U.S. Embassy in Japan COVID-19 Information
  - The Japan Times COVID-19 News Updates
- The Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) continues to closely monitor the situation in the country and provide updates on trends and governmental measures.
- The government encourages individuals to obey strict public health measures. Some key guidelines issued in Japan for individuals to protect public health include:
  1. Wear a mask. Students are required to wear masks at all times while inside the Temple Japan campus building.
  2. Disinfect hands and fingers thoroughly
  3. Avoid the 3C’s: crowded places, closed places, and close contact within your personal space.

Vaccination Status and Prior COVID-19 Diagnoses

Temple is currently evaluating whether COVID-19 vaccination will be required of students for the fall semester. At this time, we strongly recommend all students be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to traveling if they are able to be vaccinated. Program participants should not expect to get vaccinated against COVID-19 while studying abroad in Japan. Students who are planning to get a vaccination requiring two doses should ensure that they are able to receive the second dose prior to departure.

While being vaccinated significantly reduces the risk of contracting the virus, proof of COVID-19 vaccination and/or a prior COVID-19 diagnosis does not currently exempt individuals from any airline or government COVID-19 testing, quarantine, or travel requirements. All students, regardless of vaccination status or prior COVID-19 diagnosis, must adhere to the same COVID-19 policies and protocols set by the Japanese government and Temple Japan.
While students should expect this to be the case throughout the program, governments, businesses and organizations are still determining if or how vaccination and/or prior diagnosis status may affect their rules, restrictions, and regulations, and there may be developments leading up to and during the fall semester. We recommend that vaccinated individuals travel with their vaccination card in the event you need to provide proof of your vaccination status while abroad. We will also ask students to provide their vaccination status so that Temple Japan can respond to any potential changes in government regulations and appropriately advise students during their stay in Japan.

**COVID-19-related Health and Safety Measures at Temple Japan**

The health and safety of our students is our top priority. Temple Japan follows public health guidance and regulations from the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) and consults with local health officials.

Based on guidance from these sources, as well as Temple University’s Main Campus, Temple Japan has COVID-19-specific protocols in place to mitigate risk of transmission in program facilities and respond to possible and actual COVID-19 cases. We highlight several main aspects of the plans and protocols below.

**Four Pillars of Public Health**

Important public health measures have been implemented at Temple Japan, including the four pillars of public health best practices: face coverings, physical distancing, hand hygiene and health monitoring. All staff, faculty and students are expected to adhere to these practices. In accordance with Japanese public health guidance and regulations, facilities are set up for reduced capacity to maintain physical distancing during classes (classroom enrollments limited to half-capacity), activities and events held at Temple Japan.

**Student Health**

The following student health resources and protocols are also in place.

- Students have access to the English-speaking health assistance provided 24/7 by International SOS. Through this service, students make appointments with local, English-speaking doctors for anything from a cold to emergency care.

- Students who experience any symptoms related to COVID-19, or who have been in close contact with a positive case, are required to stay in their dorms and contact TUJ’s Office of Students Services immediately for assistance. Students are required to follow the instructions of local health officials, which may include measures such as medical consultation, testing, quarantine and/or self-isolation for a prescribed period.

- Students who test positive for COVID-19 at any point while in Japan, including upon arrival at the airport, are required to follow instructions of Japanese authorities and are likely required to go immediately to a government-run facility to self-isolate and be monitored for up to ten days, or to a hospital if deemed necessary by the authorities. There are many facilities in the region, most of which are hotels currently designated for this purpose. Public health authorities determine the facility to which students go.
English may not be spoken at these facilities; if needed, privately-run medical interpretation services are available via phone for a fee. Also, while TUJ staff check in with any students via email or phone daily, visitors (including TU staff) are not allowed in the isolation facility.

- All courses at TUJ have online continuity plans in the event a student must quarantine or self-isolate.

**Contact Tracing and Health Monitoring**

Japan’s MHLW conducts detailed contact tracing throughout the country, and TUJ staff have been trained in contact tracing to assist in these efforts.

**Student COVID-19 Testing in Japan**

- All travelers must obtain a negative COVID-19 test prior to departure for Japan and are also tested for COVID-19 upon arrival in Japan by immigration/quarantine authorities at the airport.

- After arrival in Japan, symptomatic students and students identified as close contacts through contact tracing follow MHLW’s protocol for testing. Students who must be tested are directed to go to a medical facility to obtain the test. If students are directed to obtain a test by a medical professional, students can call International SOS to assist with covering the costs of the test. Students who wish to be tested out of personal caution/concern or for local travel purposes will be responsible for the costs of the test. COVID-19 testing in Japan for asymptomatic patients can cost between approximately $15 and $300. Self-testing kits are readily available in drug stores for around $25. Local clinics offer tests for as low as $30.

- At this time, all travelers returning to the U.S. are required to obtain a negative COVID-19 test (complete with certificate of negative results) within 72 hours of departure for the U.S. The cost of this test with the required certificate can range from $150 to $400 and is not covered by international travel medical insurance. The less expensive testing options previously referenced do not meet the requirements for return travel to the U.S.

**Entry and Quarantine Requirements**

If students are able to travel to Japan, we assume that Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue to have specific entry and quarantine requirements in place for international travelers. Please note that Temple University and TUJ have no control over immigration regulations and procedures and that these regulations are subject to change at any time. Below we summarize the requirements that were in place when our spring 2021 students entered Japan to provide an idea of what fall students may expect. More specific and up-to-date details will be provided after we announce the program status.

**Pre-Travel Testing, Monitoring and Entry Requirements**

Students must:

- Monitor your health and report your temperature and presence of any COVID-19 symptoms to TUJ daily for the 14 days prior to departure.
Naturally, students were encouraged to carefully follow public health guidelines and limit their possible exposure to COVID-19 as much as possible prior to the program start.

- Cancel your flight if any common symptoms of COVID-19 are present.
  - All travelers were required to complete a health screening questionnaire on the flight that was reviewed by immigration upon arrival at the airport in Japan.
- Obtain a certificate confirming a negative COVID-19 test.
  - The test had to be administered in the country/region of departure within 72 hours of departure for Japan and meet certain criteria; rapid antigen tests were not approved for this purpose.
  - The certificate confirming the negative test result had to be printed on paper, include specific information, and be completed and signed by a doctor or nurse who administered the test and could verify the results prior to departure for Japan. Students were required to present the certificate to the Immigration inspector upon arrival.
  - Travelers would be denied entry to Japan if:
    - they did not have this certificate to present upon arrival; or
    - the certificate did not contain all of the required information; or
    - the testing requirements were not followed (for example, the test was administered outside of the window or was not an approved test)
  - Note that some people who have had COVID-19 continue to test positive for a long time. Entry to Japan was not permitted without a negative test result.
- Have private medical insurance.
  - Temple’s international travel medical insurance provided to all study abroad program participants fulfilled this requirement.
- Download specific apps to your smartphone for the quarantine period - including a COVID-19 contact tracing app and Google Maps; keep location services on; and retain location data through Google Maps for 14 days after entering Japan.
- Present other required immigration documents, including documents provided by Education Abroad and your passport with student visa.

Arrival and Quarantine Requirements
All students entering Japan, regardless of vaccination status, must:

- Undergo testing for COVID-19 upon arrival in Japan by immigration/quarantine authorities at the airport.
- Quarantine for 14 days in single room dorm accommodations.
- Sign a pledge to TUJ that you will follow all rules of quarantine.
- Take private transportation upon arrival; you are prohibited from taking public transportation to your quarantine facility or at any time during your first 14 days in-country.
  - TUJ arranged private transportation for students from the airport to the dorm facilities. The cost of this transportation ranged from approximately 6000 -
20,000 yen (approximately $60-$200) for Haneda airport arrivals, depending on the number of students using the service that day. Costs were higher for students who could not fly into Haneda and flew into Narita airport (up to approximately $400).

Key Details About Quarantine

- Quarantine rules, protocols and plans are subject to change, but students should anticipate a mandatory quarantine period upon arrival, regardless of any negative test results, vaccination status, or prior COVID-19 diagnoses prior to air travel.
- TUJ coordinates quarantine housing in single rooms in the dormitories. Students may need to quarantine in one dormitory and then move to another dormitory for the remainder of the semester.
- Please be aware that alcohol is prohibited in and around the dormitories during quarantine and throughout the semester. Students are not permitted to smoke in the dormitory rooms or common spaces; instead, both dorms have designated smoking areas.
- TUJ makes every effort to assure this initial quarantine period is as comfortable as possible. TUJ Office of Student Services staff are available remotely to address students’ questions and concerns. Each dorm has a live-in TUJ dorm manager as well.
- Study abroad students may need to participate in orientation and begin classes while still in quarantine. Wi-Fi access is available for participating in orientation and coursework, as well as online group activities.
- During the quarantine period, students must spend most of their time in their rooms. Students are not permitted to leave the dormitory for any reason other than to purchase food at convenience stores or grocery stores and are only able to do so in small groups when accompanied by TUJ or dormitory staff. Students are permitted to order food from delivery services, such as Uber Eats. The use of shared kitchens may be limited and/or restricted to students who need to prepare their own meals; wearing masks and maintaining social distancing will be required. All meals must be eaten in students’ rooms. Common spaces on other floors of the dorms (e.g. multipurpose rooms, fitness gym, cafeteria, etc.) are off-limits while students are quarantining, with the exception of necessities such as laundry rooms or smoking areas.
- Students are required to bring a thermometer that reads in Celsius and report their temperatures to TUJ each morning.
- Entering a two-week, isolated quarantine in a very small dorm room after arriving in a new country with only limited trips to the local grocery or convenience stores may be a difficult adjustment. Students are advised to be prepared with books, movies, and other activities. As mentioned above, TUJ provides some online activities as well. All students should consider the potential effects of this isolation on their mental health and consider engaging in tele-counseling while abroad. Temple Japan’s counseling office offers individual and group tele-counseling sessions throughout the quarantine period and into the semester. Other options include tele-counseling through International SOS or private providers in the U.S., if a student chooses to work with an existing care professional who offers remote services to travelers outside of the U.S.
COVID-19 Acknowledgement of Risks
Study abroad program participants are required to review and sign the COVID-19 Acknowledgement of Risks.

Fall Program Housing
- In order to ensure that Temple Japan can respond to any COVID-19 risks and best assist students during the fall 2021 semester, students are required to stay in university-arranged housing throughout the program and may not opt for independent housing. Unfortunately, homestays are not offered this semester.
- The cost of the fall semester housing in a single room ($4200) includes the initial 14-day quarantine housing. Detailed information about housing refund policies will be available soon on our website.
- TUJ uses two housing facilities for students. The first is the Musashi-Kosugi Dorm, a residence located in Kawasaki, Kanagawa. TUJ also uses Hakusan Dorm, a residence located in Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, if the Musashi-Kosugi residence fills. A standard single room is about 12 square meters and comes equipped with a bed, a private bathroom with a shower, a desk and a chair, an A/C unit, a refrigerator, and a closet. A different dorm facility may be used for the quarantine period and/or if the two dorms reach capacity.
- Dormitory facilities have shared kitchens on each floor, laundry rooms, and other common spaces throughout the building.
- The relative commuting distance from the University-arranged dormitory to the campus in Sangen-jaya is approximately 50-60 minutes by public transportation. Compliance with mask wearing in Japan is extremely high, but you should not expect to be able to physically distance on trains. Even with lower ridership than normal due to more people working remotely, trains can still be very crowded, especially during commuting hours.

Student Conduct, Pledge and Sanctions
The Temple Japan community is small, and everyone’s participation in following Japanese laws and regulations as well as Temple Japan rules and protocols is critical not only to the health and safety of all, but also to our ability to host a successful program. Additionally, as the sponsor of student visas, TUJ must pledge to take responsibility for students’ actions and could face severe consequences imposed by the Japanese government if any of its students fail to abide by the rules, especially rules related to entry or quarantine.

Therefore, we want to emphasize how important it is for all students on the program to follow the instructions and rules prior to departure and while in Japan.

All study abroad students will be required to sign a pledge with TUJ (sample pledge for Spring 2021) committing to follow several rules.
Failure to comply with these rules will most likely result not only in revocation of your student visa, immediate removal from the program, and immediate departure from Japan, but also could irrevocably damage Temple Japan's reputation with the government and ability to sponsor student visas going forward. It could also impact your ability to enter Japan in the future.

Following local laws and regulations, in addition to Temple Japan rules and protocols, is required under Temple’s Student Conduct Code.

**Noncompliance with Japanese or Temple Japan quarantine requirements is a violation of Temple Japan policy** and will result in disciplinary sanctions. Students are required to follow all Japanese and Temple Japan protocols during the arrival quarantine and any subsequent quarantine/isolation periods, if applicable.

**Travel outside of Japan during the program is strictly prohibited by Temple Japan.** This rule applies to all study abroad students regardless of citizenship, prior COVID-19 diagnosis and/or COVID-19 vaccination status. Travel outside of Japan is a violation of Temple Japan policy and will result in disciplinary sanctions.

Students found responsible for violations could face serious sanctions, including dismissal from the program. **Students dismissed from the program are responsible for the costs of their departure and will not receive any refunds for the costs of the program.** Temple Japan collaborates with Temple’s Main Campus Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards on student conduct matters and processes. Non-Temple home institutions will be notified of any conduct matters involving their student participants.

**Estimated Program Costs**
Detailed, estimated program cost information will be provided to applicants and posted to our website soon.

**Modified Program and Housing Deposit Refund Policies**

**Deposits:** We have modified our program and housing deposit policies for TUJ Fall 2021 to give students as much flexibility as possible.

**Temple students:** Students may receive a refund of the $200 program deposit and/or $200 housing deposit for any reason until **July 9, 2021.** To receive a refund, students must inform Education Abroad by email of their intent to withdraw from the program by **July 9, 2021.** The refund will appear as a credit and will be applied to a student’s next 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 **July 9, 2021**, students may withdraw from the program for any reason and not lose their $200 program deposit or $200 housing deposit. If students withdraw after July 9, the program deposit and housing deposit are non-refundable. Students must inform Education Abroad by email of their intent to withdraw from the program by **July 9, 2021**. We strongly recommend that students sign up for direct deposit (instructions in your 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 and housing deposit will be applied to the Temple student account or refunded to the Non-Temple student as outlined above.

**Booking a Flight to Tokyo**

Accepted program participants **should not book flights** until further notice.

TUJ may require program participants to arrive at Haneda Airport (unless unavailable from your departure location).

Education Abroad will provide more details about quarantine, testing, arrival dates, and flight requirements as soon as possible after the program status is announced.

**Personal Travel**

Prior to the official start date of the program:

If you are currently residing outside of the U.S. or considering any travel outside of the U.S. from now until the official arrival date in Japan and have not already discussed your situation with Education Abroad, you must contact the Japan Program Manager, Maddy Sullivan (**madelyn@temple.edu**) immediately. In addition to needing to submit your passport as part of the visa application process, the Japanese government has immigration restrictions in place for travelers who have visited or transited through certain countries within a certain time frame prior to arrival in Japan. Such types of restrictions may be put in place at any time and could jeopardize your participation in the program.

During the program:

To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission or complications with crossing borders and/or quarantine requirements, and because of our limited ability to assist students outside of Japan during a pandemic, students must remain in the country. **Temple Japan students will be prohibited from traveling outside of Japan during the fall program.**

After the program:

Unfortunately, it is impossible to know at this juncture if tourist-related travel to other countries will be allowed at the end of the program when the student visa dates end. For this reason, students should not plan to travel after their semester or they should be prepared to change their travel plans, which could be very costly. We hope that these restrictions may lift, but flexibility, patience and understanding any financial commitments remain key when considering personal post-program travel.
As a result of these restrictions, fall 2021 participants should plan to have a fully Japanese immersive experience that *does not* include travel outside of Japan.

We understand that this may be disappointing. However, we hope students will see this as an opportunity to embrace Japanese culture and complete the semester feeling more like a local than a visitor. Japan is a beautiful country with distinct and varied regions and traditions, and TUJ faculty and staff are looking forward to sharing the countless ways students can explore Tokyo and Japan so that students can make the most out of their experience. Fortunately, there is so much to do in Japan, and you should never become bored.

As of this writing, students with valid resident visas for the semester will have 30 days to leave Japan after the program ends.

**Visitors**

At this time, tourists from many countries (including U.S. citizens) are not permitted entry to Japan so family and friends should not expect to be able to visit program participants.

However, we still strongly encourage families to have valid passports in the event they need to visit for a serious emergency and are permitted to do so. Please note that due to public health measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, U.S. passport operations are delayed. Read our [notice about passport operations](#).

If visitors (tourists) are able to come to Japan, they may still be subject to a mandatory 14-day quarantine. Also, please note that overnight guests are not permitted in student housing.

**Pre-departure Orientation Programming**

To prepare you for your semester in Japan, Education Abroad and Temple Japan staff have developed a series of mandatory virtual workshops. The Fall 2021 virtual Pre-Departure Orientation includes a combination of small workshops and full-group information sessions for students as well as a session specifically for parents and families of students. All workshops and information sessions are hosted on Zoom. These sessions will be scheduled throughout the summer. Students will receive a full calendar of events at a later date.

**Contingency Planning**

Unfortunately, with COVID-19 still impacting travel around the world, the possibility remains that conditions may change to the degree that Temple must either cancel the program or ask students to return to their home countries earlier than planned, or that a student’s home school rescinds approval for study abroad in Japan before or during the semester.

**Flight Purchase**

As stated earlier, program participants *should not book flights* until further notice. However, at that time, it will be important to review and understand all of the financial policies and
restrictions before committing to a flight. Please note: Temple University is not responsible for any costs students may incur, including airfare and any cancellation or change fees, in the event students withdraw from the program or the program is rescheduled, modified, or canceled by Temple. Therefore, students should:

- purchase flights with the most flexible change and refund policies;
- understand these policies and their financial responsibility before purchase, including any conditions related to the ability to use a cancelled ticket for a later flight; and
- investigate trip cancellation insurance options but carefully review the exclusions.

**Academic Continuity**

We want to make sure that students continue with their academic programs in the event that we cannot run the program. We advise all fall students to create a back-up academic plan as follows:

- Temple students should register for a full course load of fall classes on MAIN CAMPUS. We will register students administratively for their Temple Japan courses, replacing their Main Campus courses, at a later date.
- Non-Temple students should reach out to their home school study abroad office and/or registrar to discuss how they can keep a “back-up” semester of courses for fall.

Once the program begins, if there is a situation which requires a lockdown or quarantine, Temple Japan is prepared to transition to an online format, either on a program or individual level, for any period of time.

**Housing**

All program participants should consider a backup plan for fall housing in case the program is cancelled. Temple students with any questions or concerns about housing options for the fall should contact Temple University Residential Life directly, as that office is in the best position to assist. Non-Temple students should speak with their home school study abroad office about their options.

**Program Interruption**

Students who start the fall 2021 program with TUJ will be able to complete their credits in the event that there is a forced change to the structure of the program. All TUJ courses will be ready for remote learning, should we need to implement this option at any point of the semester.

If conditions change to the degree that we need to ask students to return to their home countries, TUJ can facilitate an orderly but prompt departure (as we did in Spring 2020). Students would be responsible for contacting their carrier to arrange a return flight to their home country.

- Temple University is unable to assist with any additional costs associated with having to leave Japan, so we advise students to purchase flights with the most flexible change and
refund policies, and to understand both those policies and their financial responsibility as a way of preparing for this possibility.

All students who study abroad with Temple are covered by international travel medical insurance. We advise all students to keep their insurance coverage in their home countries, as the travel medical insurance will only cover students while participating in the program abroad. Details about the coverage are provided to accepted students in the pre-departure materials.

Education Abroad Contact Information
We appreciate that this is a lot of information in one document. Please don’t hesitate to let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Students who would like to meet with Temple Japan Program Manager Maddy Sullivan may visit the Education Abroad virtual front desk to set up an appointment. Alternatively, students may contact Maddy by email at madelyn@temple.edu.