

# **Global Engagement Program COVID-19 Addendum to the Acknowledgement of Assumption of Risk**

THIS AGREEMENT CONTAINS A RELEASE OF LEGAL RIGHTS –  
READ AND UNDERSTAND BEFORE SIGNING

This COVID-19 Addendum to the Acknowledgement of Assumption of Risk contains terms and conditions applicable to global engagement programs and is designed to protect Elon University (“Elon” or “the University”) and its officers, directors, employees, agents, and representatives from liability associated with global engagement programs and to enable students and parents to make an informed decision to participate in an Elon-sponsored global engagement program during the Spring 2021 semester in the wake of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Elon makes every effort to ensure the safety and well-being of students participating in the programs we sponsor. However, there are unique risks specific to participating in a global engagement program during the COVID-19 global pandemic, and these risks are due to factors beyond the control of the University. Elon requires participants and their parents, if the participants are under 18 years of age, to acknowledge that the University cannot assume responsibility for such risks.

## **I understand and hereby agree as follows:**

- 1. Voluntary Participation.** I understand that my participation in this program during Spring 2021 is voluntary and not required by Elon. I want to participate in this program, despite the risks described herein. I have made my own investigation and willingly accept any risks associated with this program.
- 2. Risks of Illness While Participating in Global Engagement During the COVID-19 Pandemic.** I understand that global engagement programs in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic involve the unique risks of exposure to COVID-19, and that Elon University cannot guarantee an environment free of COVID-19 on or off campus. I have read all applicable program literature and waivers and to the extent that literature describes risks or adjustment to the program beyond those detailed herein, I understand and voluntarily assume those risks as well. I am fully aware that there may be risks and hazards unknown to me and not described herein or in any program literature connected to participation in this program. I will consult my own doctor or other appropriate health officials and, if applicable, I will acquire the necessary immunizations or preventative treatments required by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the government of the host country(ies) for the areas I am visiting. I will consult with my doctor with regard to my personal medical needs.
- 3. Risks Related to Program Modification and Cancellation.** As global conditions may change related to the global COVID-19 pandemic, I am fully aware that there is a risk that GEC partners may make a decision to cease operations, or Elon University may choose to suspend or recall a global engagement program. Program suspension may occur based on conditions including but not limited to: escalation of risk ratings from the Department of State, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Drum Cussac and/or WorldAware (risk intelligence agencies), the local government, the local partner, and/or other trusted sources; indication of poor or declining infrastructure, limiting or prohibiting emergency healthcare or evacuation; lacking or minimal in-country support network, limiting or prohibiting Elon’s ability to initiate

emergency provisions; compounding political, environmental, or economic threats, which increase risk; and/or for Study USA programs, local conditions as determined with guidance from local and state authorities, on site Elon Faculty Directors, Partner institutions, and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention will determine the status of the program.

**4. Limitations of Insurance Coverage.** I understand and acknowledge that insurance coverage for any program cancellation or interruption will be limited in response to COVID-19, which is now considered a “known event” by insurance providers. “Known event” status means that any travel restrictions or government-imposed arrival quarantines due to COVID concerns will not trigger coverage. I understand that if I contract COVID-19 prior to program departure and receive a professional medical opinion to delay or cancel travel, this would be treated as any other illness and would trigger the cancellation coverage per limits detailed in the policy. Once abroad, the medical insurance will cover any medically necessary COVID testing, treatment, and could trigger trip interruption coverage if the student needs to return home.

**5. Release of Liability and Indemnification.** Knowing the risks described above, and in consideration of being permitted to participate in a global engagement program during Spring 2021, I agree, on behalf of my family, heirs, and personal representative(s), to assume all the risks and responsibilities surrounding my participation in such programs. To the maximum extent permitted by law, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless Elon University and its trustees, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives and affiliates, from and against any and all present or future claims, demands, actions, liabilities, losses, damages, costs and expenses (including attorneys’ fees and expenses) for death or injury to person or property which I may suffer, or for which I may be liable to any other person, during my participation in a global engagement program (including periods in transit to or from any site where such a program is being conducted) during Spring 2021. I understand that this release covers liabilities, claims, and actions resulting or arising out of my own acts or omissions, the acts or omissions of Elon personnel, the acts or omissions of third parties, independent travel or other unstructured periods of personal exploration, and/or events beyond the reasonable control of the University.

**I have carefully read all pages of this addendum before signing it. My agreement to participate in the program is wholly voluntary, and prior to signing this agreement, I have had the right and opportunity to consult with my parents and the advisor, counselor or attorney of my choice. I have read this entire document and understand that I am giving up legal rights that I might otherwise have, including the right to sue. I understand and agree that this addendum is fully incorporated into and is a part of the Acknowledgement of Assumption of Risk Agreement. All other terms and conditions that are not hereby amended are to remain in full force and effect.**