

POLICY REGARDING SARS-COV-2 FOR CULTURAL VISTAS PARTICIPANTS

This policy applies to any Participants whose engagement with Cultural Vistas involves “in-person” activities, such as traveling domestically or internationally; meeting within groups; attending or speaking at conferences, seminars, or events; completing practical training or community service; organizing events in their communities; attending higher education or language courses; living in accommodations with shared spaces; participating in interviews; etc. – collectively the “Program Activities”. The Participant acknowledges that this agreement does not create an employment relationship with Cultural Vistas.

Since travel and assembling with other individuals while engaging in Cultural Vistas Program Activities includes inherent risks, including the risk of infection and spreading disease, each Participant is required to take all precautions against the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus while participating in Cultural Vistas Program Activities. This includes adhering to all laws and recommendations by public health officials in the country/location of the Program Activities as well as to adequate and legal recommendations by host institutions (such as host companies, host families etc.), and Cultural Vistas staff, including but not limited to wearing a medical grade mask of the N95/KN95/FFP2 standard and following minimum distancing requirements.

As part of this effort to reduce transmission, as of March 1, 2022 and until the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic is no longer considered a pandemic in the countries/locations of the Program Activities by both the national and local government of those countries/locations *and* the World Health Organization, Cultural Vistas has implemented the following policy: As a condition to become and continue to be a Participant in any Cultural Vistas’ Program Activities, **Cultural Vistas requires all individuals in this program to ensure that they maintain a valid status as being fully vaccinated against the SARS-CoV-2 virus, according to the regulations of and with one of the vaccines approved by the national and local health authority in the countries/locations in which they are completing their Cultural Vistas Program Activities.** Alternately, if accepted by the national and local health authorities of the countries/locations in which the Participant is completing their Cultural Vistas Program Activities as a replacement for vaccination status, an **official proof of valid status as fully “recovered” from a SARS-CoV-2 infection** may serve in place of the proof of full vaccination status.

Unless otherwise exempted by law, the Participant must produce proof of vaccination status or recovery status upon request by Cultural Vistas staff or other implementing partners, in each case subject to applicable data protection laws. **Without proof of a valid status as being fully vaccinated or fully recovered, participation in Cultural Vistas Program Activities is not permitted, subject to applicable law.** Should the Participant choose not to maintain sufficient vaccination status throughout the Program Activities or if the recovered status expires without being replaced by a fully vaccinated status, and a host institution or program partner crucial to the implementation of the program reasonably requires proof of a sufficient status for successful implementation of the program, Cultural Vistas may, upon conferring with program funders and partners, exclude the Participant from taking part in the Program Activities or parts thereof. Any costs incurred on the part of the Participant as a result of this exclusion will be the Participant’s sole responsibility, and a refund of any program fees or deposits paid or due to Cultural Vistas cannot be issued in this case. Cultural Vistas’ liability for any culpable breach of applicable law shall remain unaffected.

A “host institution or program partner crucial to the implementation of the program” can include but is not limited to meeting partners, accommodations, host families, host companies, or government agencies overseeing immigration requirements in the host country. If the conditions to be considered fully vaccinated or fully recovered change during the course of the Cultural Vistas Program Activities, the Participant will ensure that their status as fully vaccinated or fully recovered remains up-to-date for the duration of the Program Activities

(including for example obtaining additional “booster” vaccinations, obtaining current/updated documentation, etc. within a reasonable and prompt timeframe, as determined by Cultural Vistas).

Participant acknowledges that, due to regulations of the countries/locations of the Program Activities, they may be required to fulfill a mandatory quarantine if they test positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus during the course of the Program Activities, regardless of vaccination or recovered status. Any additional costs that arise as a result of such a quarantine (accommodations, meals, travel itinerary changes, etc.) will be borne by the Participant.