

INFORMATION REGARDING TRAVEL MEDICINE AT PURCHASE COLLEGE HEALTH SERVICE

Introduction:

The Purchase College Health Service (PCHS) staff is eager to help you with your preparation for travel. We want you to have as safe, healthy and enjoyable an experience as possible. PCHS provides up to date information from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx>, as well as immunizations and travel consultations for international travelers.

If you are planning to travel abroad, it is important to start planning as soon as possible for your health care needs. It is recommended that you make an appointment to see a health care provider as soon as you know that you will be travelling abroad, preferably 6-12 weeks before your departure date.

When you make an appointment for a travel medicine evaluation, you will receive advice and health care which is tailored to your personal health profile, as well as to the unique characteristics and risks of your country of destination.

Medical Needs:

For acceptance into most study abroad programs, it will be necessary for you to have a medical consultation to review your health history and immunization requirements/recommendations. In addition, you may need a current physical examination, medication to prevent some infectious diseases endemic to the country to which you are traveling, and medications to treat common ailments that you may encounter while traveling. Many immunizations and some prophylactic medications need to be administered many weeks before your departure. If your program requires you to have a physical examination, you should make an appointment to have this done as soon as possible, with a health care provider at home during one of the school breaks, or at the PCHS. Our staff may also provide you with a list of referrals for other providers who practice travel medicine near Purchase College.

When you call PCHS for a travel medicine consultation:

You will be directed to our website, www.purchase.edu/health, to complete the form entitled, “**Making an Appointment for Travel Medicine Consultation.**” This completed form detailing your trip must be submitted to PCHS prior to scheduling an appointment.

Our staff will review the above information and will let you know which immunizations are required and recommended for travel to your destination. We will refer you to our website to review the following forms: “**Vaccines Available through Health Services**” (names and prices) and “**International Travel Clinics and Immunization Providers**” (names, addresses and general information of other providers in our area who offer travel medicine services).

If you have private health insurance, you may want to consider seeing one of the off-campus travel medicine providers, where your immunizations, as well as your physical exam, may be paid for by your insurance.

If you are unsure or have any questions, please call PCHS @ 914-251-6385.

If you elect to make an appointment at PCHS:

You will be given either one or two appointments in order to complete the comprehensive travel medical evaluation, immunization administration, and physical exam. These services are free for students. However, there is a nominal cost for any laboratory tests needed; in addition, the cost of immunizations and medications are the student’s responsibility (insurance copays and limits will apply). Please note that some immunizations need to be ordered from an outside pharmacy, and paid for upon ordering.

You will be asked to review, and in some cases, fill out several important forms prior to your visit. Please bring these forms, completed, to your first appointment. The forms can be found on our website at www.purchase.edu/healthservices