DISCLAIMER FOR PARTICIPANTS

Best Practice for Crisis Management
**Disclaimer for Participants**

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. I understand that in the context of COVID-19, there are risks to international travel as further detailed below. This waiver (release) of liability is given in consideration for assisting me to become a participant in an international exchange programme.

You should note that any proof of vaccination may nullify the terms and conditions below (always carry your card to provide proof).

1. I understand that I am responsible for understanding the COVID-19 protocols in the destination city, state and country and reviewing these continuously as they change. This includes a possible COVID-19 test prior to departure/upon arrival.

2. In the interest of protecting my health and wellbeing and that of my roommates/host employer/host family, I acknowledge that I must stay up-to-date and comply with all protocols established by the state, city, host employer/host family and/or landlord while participating in the exchange programme. In addition, I understand the consequences for non-compliance which include, but are not limited to: termination of employment, cancellation of sponsorship, fines, sanctions, imprisonment, etc.

3. I understand that my host employer/host family could implement daily checks before allowing me to start work such as, temperature checks, random COVID-19 testing, questionnaires regarding COVID-19 symptoms, hand sanitation, etc. If I refuse to submit to the daily protocol or have any symptoms, I understand that I may not be allowed to work that day (and any subsequent days) without pay.

4. I understand that I may be required to quarantine upon arrival at my destination city where I will complete my exchange programme. During this time, I understand that I may not be paid by my host employer/host family and that I may need to cover my rent and personal food costs.

5. I understand that while sharing housing with other participants/host family members, I will be obligated to follow all safety rules and regulations which prohibit parties/social gatherings and guests.

6. I understand that I must respect my roommates/host family members. I will not expose them unnecessarily to COVID-19, which could mean not attending parties, social gatherings (in and outside of my housing), crowded events, bars, etc.

7. I understand that I may be required to use a facial covering (mask) within all common areas of my housing if required by the landlord and/or host employer/host family.

8. I understand that if I must undergo quarantine during my programme (if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, and/or if exposed to a possible case and/or one of my roommates has COVID-19 and requires me to also undergo quarantine), I may be responsible for all expenses related to housing, meals/food, cleaning supplies, personal protection equipment, personal items, among others. In addition, I may be responsible for preparing my own meals while following all health and safety protocols in common areas until quarantine is complete or I am symptom-free. Likewise, I may be required to submit to COVID-19 testing before I am allowed to return to work.

9. I understand that if one of my roommates/host family members tests positive for COVID-19 and there are no designated quarantine areas available, I may have to continue living with this person/these people while they quarantine.

10. I understand that if during my participation in the programme, I decide to travel to another city, state or country (the entry to and/or upon return), I could be affected by a mandatory quarantine, and that I am solely responsible for investigating all relevant information before I decide if I should travel.

11. I understand that I am responsible for purchasing and acquiring my own PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for use outside of the workplace and that it must be in accordance with local government requirements.

12. I understand that if I need a COVID-19 test, I am responsible for contacting my health insurance provider to find out if my policy includes COVID-19 testing, where tests are conducted and if the costs of the test are covered by the policy. Furthermore, I will be responsible for coordinating my transportation to and from the testing centre.

13. I acknowledge that I could face a modified work schedule (hours) and/or duties, which do not match my original job agreement, by my host company/host family due to circumstances which may be directly or indirectly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

14. I am aware that my participation in the programme could be affected and that I may need to end my programme and return to my home country earlier than anticipated due to reasons related to COVID-19.

15. I am aware that there may be additional stress, pressure and isolation imposed upon me due to the pandemic.

16. During participation on the programme, all participants will be subject to the same working conditions and modifications to job requirements which may not be granted if the student falls within the "at risk" group for contracting COVID-19. Consequently, I certify that I am sufficiently healthy and fit to be on an international cultural exchange programme (check one of the two options).

[   ] I am in optimal health for programme participation.

[   ] Due to an underlying medical condition, I am considered to be part of the "at risk" group for contracting COVID-19. (You must obtain a doctor’s note authorising the trip prior to issuance of the DS 2019 form.)