

Student Safety Tips

General Situational Awareness

- **Keep your eyes and ears open. Be aware of your surroundings.** Observe what is going on around you. Be ready to act. Lookout for unexpected behaviors.
- **Identify all exits** so you can safely escape from immediate danger. If you cannot escape, hide.
- **Know the location of safe places and shelters.**
- **Stay calm. Plan how to respond to an emergency.** Remain informed and follow personal safety measures.
- **Read email for alerts** from iJET International, UC's security partner.
- **Know the risks; recognize threats and know how you will respond to minimize impact.**
- **Follow local news and advice** from local UCEAP staff/partners and authorities. Be proactive if there is a local emergency.

Communications

- **Let your family or friends and UCEAP staff know that you are safe.**
- **Have a cell phone with an international voice and data plan or buy a local SIM card wherever you travel.**
- **Unlock your phone before departure from the U.S. KEEP IT ON AND CHARGED.** Your UCEAP network must be able to reach during an emergency. Have different ways of sending and receiving messages (e.g., email, cell phone, SMS, FB, WhatsApp, Viber, WeChat, Google Project Fi for Fi-ready phones, etc.). *Do not rely on Wi-Fi access only.*
- **Carry paper copies of emergency contact cards. Know how to reach local emergency services.**
- **Protect your personal information. Be discreet on social media about yourself and your plans.**
- **Ensure your local contact information is current in MyEAP and with the local partner.**
- **Learn basic survival phrases in the local language** (e.g., "I need help", "Call the police." "I need a doctor").

Traveling

- **Consider safety when traveling. Avoid stops in high-risk areas or airports.**
- **Familiarize yourself with current conditions.** Know how to get there and back. Never hitchhike.
- **Avoid travel to countries with an active US Department of State [Travel Warning](#).**
- **Stay in contact with your family and friends to help minimize unnecessary anxiety.** Share your itinerary and contact information.
- **Sign out with UCEAP when traveling.** The UCEAP response team can help you if we know where you are.
- **Use the "buddy system"—travel in groups.** Do not leave your friends behind.
- **Observe road safety while taking local transportation or as a pedestrian.**
- **Choose safe transportation always.** Road crashes are the leading cause of death and injury for travelers. UCEAP strongly discourages owning, renting, or operating any motorized vehicle while abroad.
- **If caught in a dangerous situation, remain clam. Run away is safe to do so.**
- **Be aware of cultural differences and abide by local customs and laws.** You are a guest in a foreign country.
- **Avoid demonstrations;** they can turn violent without warning. If caught in a demonstration, leave immediately.
- **Avoid large public gatherings.** Choose public activities carefully. Always identify exits.
- **Register online (you will need your passport) with the U.S. Department of State, <https://step.state.gov/step/>.**