WashU is closely monitoring the novel coronavirus outbreak, both in mainland China and its cascading impacts globally. We recognize that some of China’s neighboring countries are starting to take stronger precautionary actions.

At this time, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the U.S. Department of State have not issued guidance advising against travel to neighboring countries. The Department of State has upgraded its advisory level for Hong Kong and Macau to Level 2: Exercise Increased Caution. The university’s travel conditions have not changed.

On February 10, 2020, the World Health Organization hosted a “Question & Answers on Advice for Travelers during 2019 n-CoV”. The key messages from this video were:

- Travel, except to mainland China, can continue as planned
- Travelers should practice good hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and coughing etiquette, just as they should for any respiratory disease (like influenza)
- Travelers should reconfirm their itineraries in case of flight changes and review any guidance put in place by the country they’re traveling to
- Travelers can expect some delays in airports due to screenings or other precautionary measures

The CDC has published a “Travel: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers” page on their website with additional information.

We also encourage travelers to register details of their supplemental itineraries, such as Spring Break plans, into MyTrips. Travelers can also check in to their new location using the International SOS Assistance app. Doing so ensures that travelers receive the most up-to-date alerts regarding the novel coronavirus from International SOS.

WashU places the highest priority on our travelers’ safety and security. Please contact itoc@wustl.edu with any additional questions. Questions related to health or healthcare should be directed to medical professionals.