

Frequently Asked Questions student mobility during semester 2 of the 2021-2022 academic year

Student mobility within Europe (including Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland and the UK)

Is physical student mobility allowed during semester 2 of the 2021-2022 academic year?

- TU/e will allow physical mobility, under strict conditions, for both courses (exchange) and internships/(graduation) research projects within Europe (including the EEA countries Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland and also the UK).
- The physical mobility (for incoming and outgoing exchange students) to countries outside Europe during semester 2 of the academic year 2021-2022 for courses (exchange) is cancelled and not allowed.
- The physical mobility (for incoming and outgoing students) to and from countries outside Europe to undergo an internship or (graduation) research project can be allowed in case the country of destination or residence is listed as safe at the [EU's List of Epidemiologically Safe Countries \(https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/eu-list-of-epidemiologically-safe-countries-amid-covid-19/\)](https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/eu-list-of-epidemiologically-safe-countries-amid-covid-19/) at a certain reference date.

What are the conditions to go abroad within Europe?

- Only travelling to code green and yellow areas is allowed.
- Travelling is not allowed to code orange and red areas.
- For code orange countries within Europe (and above listed EEA countries and the UK), an exception can be considered if this orange color code is related to only a mandatory negative PCR test before arrival at the foreseen destination and/or an obligation to go into quarantine after arrival or after return to The Netherlands.
- If you receive approval for an exchange or internship within Europe, you are responsible to keep track about the actual situation and measurements that are in place in the country of your destination. This will be verified by the exchange coordinator of the department two weeks before travelling abroad. The most accurate information about the COVID-19 situation and applicable color code in European countries can be found on [the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#).

Please note:

- In case the color code changes from yellow to orange/red shortly before the actual start date of your planned (and approved) exchange for courses/internship/research project, unfortunately the urgent advice will be to cancel your trip. Any costs occurred to arrange this study abroad trip will not be reimbursed by TU/e.
- If the color code changes from green/yellow to orange or red after departure to the country of destination and repatriation of TU/e students is necessary before the end of the mobility period, the travel costs for repatriation will be for the university. Costs that are intended are the costs that must be incurred for students to be able to travel back to the Netherlands before the actual end date of their mobility period. Other costs, including costs in the event of premature termination of the rental obligation, costs for doing a PCR test before travelling or any costs related to quarantine obligations, are for the student's own account.

Can I take online courses (virtual mobility) only at a university abroad (within and outside Europe)?

TU/e does not recognize a complete online exchange as a replacement of the physical form of international experience. If you have to follow (some) online courses during your exchange period abroad in one of the countries that are allowed again, you must inform your departmental exchange coordinator. Please note there are no grants or scholarships available for a complete virtual/online mobility (exchange or internship/graduation project) when staying in The Netherlands.

Why is there a difference for doing an exchange abroad in semester 2 within Europe and countries outside Europe?

- Doing an exchange outside Europe requires more time to organize and making more costs in advance because of the VISA requirements. In case of last-minute changes in travel advice, students have a risk of paying higher amount of non-refundable costs that will not be refunded by TU/e.
- More and more non-EU partner universities cancelled their physical exchange programs for semester 2.
- In case the COVID-19 situation changes when you are abroad and repatriation is needed before the end of the mobility, costs will be lower if you are within Europe. Next to that experience shows, that repatriation from a country outside Europe is more complicated because of travel restrictions and travel bans.

Which countries within Europe are eligible to do an exchange/internship/research project?

The 27 EU member states plus Liechtenstein, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. For details about the 27 EU member states visit [the website of Netherlands Worldwide](#).

Am I eligible to receive a mobility grant when I receive formal approval to do an exchange or internship/research project abroad within Europe?

You are eligible for TU/e mobility grant if you undertake an exchange or internship/research project within Europe when you meet the criteria for permission to go abroad and if all standard (Erasmus+) conditions for granting a scholarship are met.

Please note:

- In case the exchange or internship period abroad will not take place due to COVID-19 restrictions or travel advice red/yellow or has to be aborted before the end of the exchange period, it could be that you need to reimburse the full grant amount that you received in advance.
- The mobility grants are explicitly not available for virtual exchange or a virtual internship.
- Only students who have received permission of the department to go abroad are eligible to receive a grant.

Can I defer my planned exchange semester to semester 1 of upcoming academic year?

Yes, this is allowed in case the partner university offers enough allocated places during semester 1 of the academic year 2022-2023. Please contact the departmental exchange coordinator about the possibilities. Be aware that this could mean that you could face study delay and that the situation around COVID-19 will not change for the best and could also be canceled during semester of the academic year 2022-2023. The final decision if physical mobility during semester 1 is allowed will be taken around May 2022.

What if my exchange (for courses)/ research project/ internship is canceled at the last moment? Is it still possible to register for courses at TU/e after the registration deadline?

Yes, please contact the departmental exchange coordinator for the specific steps for each department. Be aware that some courses may no longer be available due to limited spaces.

Student mobility outside Europe

- The physical mobility (for incoming and outgoing exchange students) to countries outside Europe, during semester 2 of the academic year 2021-2022 for courses (exchange) is cancelled and not allowed.
- The physical mobility (for incoming and outgoing students) to and from countries outside Europe to undergo an internship or (graduation) research project can be allowed in case the country of destination or residence is listed as safe at the [EU's List of Epidemiologically Safe Countries \(https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/eu-list-of-epidemiologically-safe-countries-amid-covid-19/\)](https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/eu-list-of-epidemiologically-safe-countries-amid-covid-19/) at a certain reference date.

Who decides if I can do an online internship outside Europe?

The dean of the department of your studies - or in case of an interdepartmental master's program the dean of the coordinating department - takes the final decision and must approve your internship/research project outside Europe during semester 2.

When do I know if I am allowed to do a physical internship or graduation project outside Europe?

- The final decision to allow physical mobility to do an internship or research project outside Europe for start dates during semester will be made 10 weeks before the start of the quartile in which your internship or graduation projects will begin.
- For an internship or graduation project with a start date during Q3 of the academic year 2021-2022, the decision will be made on November 29, 2021.
- For an internship or graduation project with a start date during Q4 of the academic year 2021-2022, the decision will be made on February 21, 2022.
- Receiving permission on these dates is only possible under strict conditions. See below for the minimum conditions to allow physical mobility to do an internship or research project outside Europe.
- Please note that if the situation changes for the worse (to travel code orange or red, in combination with a negative advice in [EU's List of Epidemiologically Safe Countries \(https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/eu-list-of-epidemiologically-safe-countries-amid-covid-19/\)](https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/eu-list-of-epidemiologically-safe-countries-amid-covid-19/)), in the period after the above-mentioned decision date, you are not allowed to travel

abroad for internship or graduation project. In this case, the costs you have already made are not reimbursed by TU/e. Therefore, the advice is to wait to book any travel tickets until the decision date as mentioned above. reimbursed by TU/e. Therefore the advice is to wait to book any travel tickets until the decision date as mentioned above.

Important:

In case the travel advice changes for the better after the decision date (to travel code green or yellow), the initial decision will not change into a positive advice to go abroad. The reason is that we need to realize and respect the time needed to arrange the project itself and the necessary visa, residence permit and/or working permit.

What if the travel advice changes from yellow to orange or red before the start of my internship outside EEA?

- Only travelling to code green and yellow areas is allowed
- Travelling is not allowed to code orange and red areas.
- For code orange countries outside EEA, an exception can be considered if this orange color code is related to only a mandatory negative PCR test before arrival at the foreseen destination and/or an obligation to go into quarantine after arrival or after return to The Netherlands.
- The TU/e student that receives approval for an internship or project outside EEA is responsible his/herself to keep track about the actual situation and measurements that are in place in the country of their destination.
- The most accurate information about the COVID-19 situation and applicable color code in European countries can be found on [the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#).

Please note:

- In case the color code changes from yellow to orange/red shortly before the actual start date of your planned (and approved) internship/research project, it is, unfortunately, urgent advice to cancel this trip. Any costs occurred to arrange this study abroad trip will not be reimbursed by TU/e.
- If the color code changes from green/yellow to orange or red and repatriation of TU/e students is necessary before the end of the mobility period, the travel costs for repatriation will be for the university. (Costs that are intended are the costs that must be incurred for students to be able to travel back to the Netherlands before the actual end date of their mobility period. Other costs (including costs in the event of premature termination of the rental obligation, costs for doing a PCR test before travelling or any costs related to quarantine obligations) are for the student's own account).

Am I eligible to receive a mobility grant when I receive formal approval to do an internship/research project abroad outside Europe?

- Students are eligible for TU/e mobility grant if they undertake an internship/research project outside Europe when they meet the criteria for permission to go abroad and if all standard conditions for granting a scholarship are met. (Also see www.tue.nl/goingabroad)
- In case the exchange or internship period abroad will not take place due to COVID-19 restrictions or travel advice red/yellow or has to be aborted before the end of the exchange

period, you have the chance that you have to reimburse the full grant amount that you received in advance.

- The mobility grants are explicitly not available for virtual exchange or a virtual internship.
- Only students who have received the permission of the department to go abroad are eligible to receive a grant.

Am I, as an international student, currently residing in my home country (outside of Europe) allowed to take an internship there?

This may be possible, but it is bound to strict conditions and only with the permission of the dean of the department. In this case you should contact the departmental exchange coordinator.

Insurance

What is covered by AON Insurance policies?

Coverage depends on the type of insurance the student has;

- I the Aon Student Insurance or
- II the Business Travel Insurance

Ad I Aon Student Insurance

Students who travel to a country that has the code yellow and changes from yellow to orange for study and/or internship still have coverage for (additional) medical costs in accordance with the conditions, including medical costs because of COVID-19. Students need to take out this insurance for the entire period that they study and/or do an internship abroad. This is to prevent them from taking out cover until, for example, a 2nd or 3rd COVID-19 outbreak occurs. In these cases, COVID-19 will be excluded from coverage.

Aon Student Insurance and Cancellation

Not being able to continue an internship and/or study abroad, for which the student has already incurred costs, for example, a ticket, are not covered by the insurance. Any ticket costs can be claimed from the airline. Depending on their policy and the reason for cancellation, they may be eligible for (partial) compensation.

Aon Student Insurance and Quarantine Requirements

Any costs incurred for (mandatory) quarantine are not covered by the insurance. Students who have to be quarantined for 2 weeks, compulsory or otherwise, before entering a country, must be aware about additional costs that they have to pay themselves. For more information, please refer to [the IATA website](#).

Aon Student Insurance and Repatriation

Concerning repatriation, there is a cover for:

- medical repatriation of students to the Netherlands or the nearest country, also at COVID-19.
- repatriation of the student to home country in the event of serious illness or death of a family member in the 1st or 2nd degree.
- repatriation of the 1st or 2nd degree family to the student as a result of serious illness or death of the student.

- repatriation of the insured's mortal remains to the home country.

Excluded from coverage

- Repatriation as a result of a COVID-19 outbreak in the internship and/or study country of the student, for example, due to a lockdown.
- A country turns orange or red and the student wants to leave.

Ad II Business Travel Insurance (60187816)

COVID-19 coverage Business Travel Insurance

The following conditions are set for eligibility for medical expenses:

- Before departure to go abroad, a student may not show/have any symptoms of or already have COVID-19 infection.
- Students who travel to an orange country for study and/or internship are covered for secondary medical costs as a result of COVID-19 in accordance with the conditions. This also applies to necessary trips. It is up to the student or the educational institution to indicate this. The internship/study abroad must be part of the study.
- If a student is in a country that turns from yellow to orange or to red, the additional medical costs cover will of course remain in effect.

Business Travel Insurance in case of Cancellation / Quarantine Requirements and Repatriation

The same conditions for cover apply under this insurance as with the Aon Student Insurance.