

## Risk Assessment

### How to Assess Risk

Off-campus activities can pose varying levels of risk to the participants. Under OCASP such levels are categorized as either **manageable** (including **low-risk** and **higher-risk** activities) or **unmanageable** risk. Refer to OCASP Section 4.2 Manageable Risk and Section 4.3 Unmanageable Risk for comprehensive definitions.

Start your assessment by verifying if your off-campus activity is included in one of the following groupings rendering it “Low Risk”:

- University List of Low-Risk Activities (ULLRA) [Refer to OCASP Section 4.2]
- Department List of Low-Risk Activities (DLLRA) [Refer to your department Person-In-Authority]
- Bader International Study Centre (BISC)

IF NOT, then ask yourself the following types of questions:

- What is the activity in which I am engaging? Are there risks associated to the activity itself?
- Where is the site of the activity? Is it a high density urban area? Is it at a distance from emergency coverage? Is there a lack of phone reception?
- Will my travel take me to a country or region where unusual conditions such as political instability, uncertain medical services or a natural disaster are known to exist, or for which there is a travel advisory? What type of transportation will I be using? Will it be by public conveyance?

### Manageable – Low Risk

This refers to an off-campus activity that entails hazards no greater than those encountered by the participants in their everyday lives.

### Manageable – Higher Risk

This refers to an off-campus activity that has the potential to expose participants to hazards that are significantly greater than those likely to be encountered in their everyday lives. For example:

- Potential risks that may be associated with the activity itself, such as scuba diving;
- Any activity that involves travel through or to a country or region for which a travel or health advisory is in effect;
- **All** international activities involving **undergraduate** (students in first-entry baccalaureate programs) or **professional** (J.D., MD, B.Ed.) student participants.

### Unmanageable Risk

Activities that might involve unmanageable risk include:

- Travel to war zones, travel to areas with high medical risks, and activities in areas with high risk of natural disasters e.g. avalanches.

### Unknown – Preliminary Risk Assessment

If your activity doesn't clearly fall into the above-noted categories, or you are still unsure after assessing, complete the Preliminary Risk Assessment process working with your Person-In-Authority and the OCASP 2.0 online tool to determine the risk level of your proposed activity (Refer to OCASP Section 4.1).

**Questions? Contact the OCASP Administrator.**

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