PARENTAL NOTIFICATION POLICY

The College and the Center for International Programs recognize students' developing independence, responsibility and accountability. However, the Associate Provost for International Programs or his/her designates has the authority and reserves the right to notify parents in the following circumstances and conditions:

Emergencies

The College reserves the right to notify parents or guardians, regardless of age, status, or conduct, in health and safety emergencies, hospitalizations, or when in our judgment, the health or well-being if a student or others is or may be at risk.

Student Conduct Overseas

The College reserves the right to inform parents or guardians of student when:

- That student's behavior has been the cause of a disturbance to others on or off campus.
- That student's behavior has been the cause of a disruption of other students' education.
- That student's behavior caused or had the potential to cause harm to persons or property.
- That student's behavior led to an arrest in which the student was taken into custody.
- That student's behavior resulted or could have resulted in the student being removed from study abroad.
- That student's behavior affected his/her ability to fulfill the essential functions of a student.
- The student has demonstrated a pattern of unacceptable disruptive behavior, even if these incidents are minor.
- The student has become physically ill and/or required medical intervention as a result of use/abuse of alcohol and/or drugs.
Whenever possible, students will be informed that a parental notification is planned so that they have an opportunity to discuss the issue with their parents directly. Parent(s) or guardian(s) listed in the student’s study abroad application will receive a copy of the acceptance letter, with other program specific information, upon admission to the study abroad program.

**POLICY ON INDEPENDENT TRAVEL**

- Students who plan to be away from their residences at their study abroad programs for week-end or vacation travel are **strongly encouraged to leave itineraries and an approximate return time with the homestay family, roommates, and/or program director.** In addition, students are strongly encouraged to communicate their travel plans and itineraries with their families at home. If the travel will be longer than a day or two, students should arrange some form of “check-in” communication with the program director, their study abroad residence and/or families in the U.S.

- **No student is to be absent** from the program while classes are in session. More than two weekend absences in one month are also strongly discouraged in that they jeopardize family and community relationships.

- **Traveling alone on extended trips is strongly discouraged.** In case of accident or illness, the foreigner traveling alone is exposed to unnecessary risks, which outweigh whatever advantages there may be in traveling alone.

- **Students are strongly warned against hitchhiking.** Despite what you may have heard, in most parts of the world hitchhiking is extremely dangerous, both for men and for women. Under NO circumstances should any student hitchhike. Kalamazoo College and The Center for International Programs’ policy expressly prohibit all hitchhiking by program participants. Students who engage in hitchhiking jeopardize their further participation in the program. Moreover, neither Kalamazoo College, the Center for International Programs, nor their agents and employees can
be held responsible for injuries or accidents to a student who violates this regulation.

- **Students should be alert to U.S. State Department “cautions” and “warnings” regarding travel in areas deemed unsafe or risky.** Local personnel and/or the Center for International Programs will also from time to time disseminate information or warnings in times of emergencies and heightened risk. Neither Kalamazoo College, the Center for International Programs, nor its agents and employees can be held responsible if students choose to ignore such information or warnings. Prior to travel, students should check the Department of State’s website at [http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/travel_1744.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/travel_1744.html).

**POLICY ON MOTOR VEHICLES**

- **No motorized vehicle** (including motorized bicycles and motor scooters) may be owned, operated or driven by any student abroad while the academic program abroad is in session. Violations of this policy may subject the offender to immediate dismissal from the program.

- **During extended vacation periods**, such vehicles may be RENTED if: Parental approval has been given in writing to the Associate Provost of the Center for International Programs, and this approval has been specifically endorsed by the Associate Provost of the Center for International Programs.