



OSAC Academia Sector Committee

Welcome Flyer

WELCOME TO OSAC'S ACADEMIA SECTOR COMMITTEE (ASC)!

We are excited to have you represent our growing membership of over 500 members from nearly 275 institutions and organizations. We hope this group will serve you well as you collaborate, network, and benchmark on health, safety, security, and risk management issues in education abroad. We are committed to examining the security needs of the U.S. study abroad community and identifying and addressing the security matters relevant to the Academia Sector Committee (ASC) membership.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF JOINING OSAC AND THE ASC?

Now that you are an ASC member, you have access to OSAC analytical reports and security assessments for almost every country in the world. This includes such information as geopolitical risk, travel safety information, embassy contact details, and more. You can expect to start receiving emails from the ASC listserv where you and other members can discuss timely and relevant security concerns and benchmark with one another.

You get instant access to newly released, academia-specific resources, such as "Site Assessment Tool," "Mental Health Toolkit," and various benchmarking surveys on institutional responses to complex security situations. You can also reach out to OSAC analysts and coordinators to ask specific health, safety, and security questions related to the countries in which your institution's faculty, staff, and/or students are traveling or operating.

Typically, the ASC holds an all-members briefing once a year in Washington, D.C. on the margins of OSAC's Annual Briefing in November to address academia's unique health, safety, and security concerns. We invite you to join this important meeting. Additionally, the ASC holds several topical seminars each year, either in-person or virtually and both domestically and abroad. All of OSAC's events are free-of-charge to members, although members are expected to cover costs for their own lodging, transportation, and some meals at in-person events.

WHAT IS THE ASC CURRENTLY WORKING ON?

The ASC is currently focused on a number of projects to enhance the work of the group and the security operations of the academia sector as a whole including:

- Monthly ASC Connector Series to discuss topical events for members, including access to OSAC Analysts;
- Efforts to increase ASC membership by conducting outreach to HBCUs;
- Engaging members through online conversation and dialogue;
- Resources to address diversity, equity, and inclusion in the health and safety space.

We also continue to seek host institutions and organizations for future in-person OSAC ASC seminars.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED WITH THE ASC?

Now that you have joined OSAC and the ASC, there are no mandatory requirements to remain a member. However, if you would like to be an active participant and get involved in the OSAC network, you can:

- Attend ASC's annual meeting in November and/or other in-person seminars throughout the year both domestically and abroad;
- Participate in ASC online webinars and the monthly ASC Connector Series;
- Post or answer questions on the dedicated OSAC ASC listserv by sending emails to osac-awg@googlegroups.com;
- Spread the word and invite study abroad colleagues to join;
- Access OSAC Analysts and Regional Security Officers for security questions and concerns related to your institutional travel needs
- Apply to be a part of ASC's Steering Committee;
 - ASC leadership team consists of a chair, vice chair, eight steering committee members, and five technical advisors.
 - ASC subcommittees include benchmarking, events, and membership.
- Suggest ideas for new resources and/or volunteer to help create these resources;
- Log into your individual user account on the OSAC website and leverage OSAC products and resources (both those specific to academia and those that are not); and
- Attend other meetings, events, and/or workshops hosted by OSAC Country Chapters, regional Common Interest Committees, or OSAC Women in Security.

WHO CAN I TALK TO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

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