#### **EAB IMMERSION COVID POLICY 2023**

EAB follows the CDC COVID guidelines for international travel found at this link:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html

In addition to CDC's guidelines, EAB prioritizes the health and wellbeing of our partners in the Dominican Republic who may have compromised health conditions, and limited access to healthcare. For this reason, all EAB participants are required to be fully vaccinated for COVID as recommended by the CDC, and to carry proof of vaccination status, preferably a physical copy (since cell phones will not be accessible or functional at all times), in case it is required at any point during travel or while in the Dominican Republic. If asked to wear a mask by a Dominican partner, staff, or facilitator, participants will be required to wear a mask, so pack masks with you. If you feel sick or experience any COVID symptoms within one week of scheduled departure, take a COVID test. All participants must document a negative COVID test within 24 hours of departure regardless of symptoms.

## What happens if a participant tests positive for COVID prior to the program?

If you test positive for COVID within 24 hours of the departure date, do not travel, and follow CDC guidelines for isolation:

# https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html

Education Across Borders will only refund program fees (defined as non-airline fees) in accordance with the contractual agreement. Participants who miss any or all portions of the program for health reasons are still bound by this contractual agreement. Participants must make requests for refunding or crediting of the airline fees *directly to the airlines*; EAB is not responsible for refunding or crediting airfare costs. EAB strongly recommends all participants purchase insurance to cover for these contingencies; EAB does not provide health or travel insurance for participants.

# What happens if a participant tests positive for COVID while in the Dominican Republic?

Participants must carry a supply of antigen tests with them. If a participant tests positive for COVID while in the Dominican Republic, you will need to follow CDC guidelines and isolate for the recommended amount of time. This may result in a delayed flight, and the participant will be responsible for all costs incurred to change flights, as well as all costs associated with the additional stay in the Dominican Republic. EAB will not provide a staff member to stay with participants in this contingency, nor to accompany the participant on their return flight.

## Withdrawing from the Program

We understand that the decision to participate in international programs may be particularly difficult at this time. The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic has introduced a heightened degree of uncertainty and precaution regarding much of what used to be commonplace. Everyone has their own tolerance for uncertainty and risk, and we

encourage participants and families to discuss their plans with their support network as part of their discernment.

Because of the risks involved, EAB strongly recommends all participants book refundable flights, and purchase travel insurance to cover 100% of program costs as well as possible contingency costs, in the event that an unforeseen illness occurs.