



*Cronin Office of
International Education*

175 Forest Street,
Waltham Massachusetts 02452 USA
bentley.edu

t +1 781-891-2161
f +1 781-891-2788

March 19, 2020

ATTENTION BENTLEY STUDENTS ABROAD IN AUSTRALIA AND SINGAPORE

Media reports released today (March 19, 2020) indicate that the [US State State Department](#) is likely to announce a Level 4 travel advisory applying to all international travel, its most severe warning. The advisory would instruct all Americans abroad to either return to the United States or prepare to shelter in place, given the global threat of the coronavirus outbreak.

In anticipation of an imminent increase in US State Department warning as well as potential for further travel disruption, Bentley University **REQUIRES** that study abroad students in Australia and Singapore make immediate arrangements to return to their permanent home if they have not done so already.

As of this writing, the US State Department has a global "reconsider travel" [advisory](#) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a global "practice enhanced precaution" [advisory](#) and level 2 alert for Australia and Singapore. We anticipate that those alert levels may change in the very near future.

Travel Plans

Please contact your airline to arrange a flight as soon as possible. We recommend a departure date as soon as reasonably possible and suggest no later than March 25. [Any student who has difficulty securing travel or has serious concerns about feasibility of returning to their permanent residence, please contact your study abroad advisor for guidance.](#)

Once you have secured a departure, please report your departure date, departure city, arrival date and arrival city to your study abroad advisor. Monitor the [Department of Homeland Security](#), or your home country equivalent to ensure you have the most up to date information regarding entry into your home country as you prepare to travel. Travelers returning to the United States may be subject to additional screening measures upon entry to the United States, but thus far there have been no reports from Bentley students of entry difficulties.

Flight Reimbursement

Bentley will subsidize one economy change fee or one economy ticket to your home country up to a maximum of \$1,500. Send your flight itinerary and your receipt to both your study abroad advisor and to ga_acctspayable@bentley.edu. Receipts are subject to review by Financial

Operations and will be processed as soon as possible.

Academic Continuation

Follow guidance provided by your individual study abroad program. Notify on site advisors and professors of your departure and your willingness to continue remotely. Save all coursework to date and save all contact information of your professors. If you do not already have academic guidance from your program on course continuation, Bentley faculty and advisors will advise you further how to earn academic credit.

Student Support

[Contact your program's onsite staff, local emergency contact, int'l insurance hotline, or Bentley University Police at +1.781.891.3131 whose dispatchers can reach the Cronin Office of International Education team.](#) The International Education team is on standby to advise all students.

Show Solidarity

As you prepare to depart, keep in mind that people of all nations will continue to work together to slow the impact of Coronavirus. Please show compassion and support from Bentley and the US as your hosts continue to deal with the challenges of COVID-19 in their communities. Help us thank them for their hospitality.

Please know that we are here to support you in cooperation with study abroad partners and affiliates. We appreciate your patience, adaptability, and flexibility in these unprecedented times. As always, the health and safety of Bentley students is our top priority. Bentley updates for study abroad students will continue to be posted here <https://www.bentley.edu/coronavirus>. You can find FAQs for all Bentley students here <https://www.bentley.edu/coronavirus>.

Sincerely,

Natalie and the International Education Team

Cronin Office of International Education

Adamian Academic Center, 161

BENTLEY UNIVERSITY

175 Forest Street, Waltham, MA 02452-4705 USA

T +1.781.891.3474

Visit us: bentley.edu/international-education

Follow us:

[facebook/bentleyuabroad](https://facebook.com/bentleyuabroad) | twitter.com/bentleyuabroad | Instagram.com/bentleyuabroad