13th August 2020

Update: our next academic year

To: international students

This email has been sent to all students whose nationality or residence is listed as outside the UK on the student record to ensure we reach all international students.

Dear student,

We are writing to provide you with some helpful updates in preparation for you returning or continuing your studies with us at the University of Edinburgh.

We recognise that circumstances vary considerably between our students, particularly how much Covid-19 may be having an impact on your studies. Whether you are preparing to come back to our campus soon or are studying digitally at home, we want to give you a fantastic experience at the University of Edinburgh.

Studying with us next Semester
In our email to all students in July, we gave an update on our plans for the next academic year, which provided more information on our new hybrid teaching and learning model to support studying both on-campus and off-campus.

We want to make sure that you can continue to study with us while keeping the health and wellbeing of all our students and staff as our main priority, and this will continue to be the focus as we make plans for the next academic year.

We do however understand that due to Covid-19 restrictions, it may not be feasible for you to travel to the UK for the start of Semester 1. You will be able to register online using our new annual registration process, so don’t worry if you are not in Edinburgh.

You will still receive the best quality education and be able to engage with your fellow students and teaching staff virtually. Completing your courses and assessments remotely will not impact your academic transcript.

If you have additional questions or are looking for specific advice and support relating to your course, you should contact your school student support team in the first instance.

Campus safety
If you’re joining us on-campus, we’re making adjustments so you can study safely. Our campuses will have easily accessible hand-washing facilities, increased cleaning and a number of measures to ensure that you can observe physical distancing rules at all times. University buildings will have one-way systems and circulation spaces in place, with clear signage to guide you.

If you are currently living in Edinburgh, you will already be aware of the safety measures that shops, businesses and other public buildings have in place to comply with physical distancing rules in Scotland, along with the requirement to wear face coverings on public transport.
Travelling to Scotland
We’re all playing our part to keep ourselves and others safe. In Scotland you should follow the latest Scottish Government guidance, which may be different to UK Government advice.

If you are currently living outside the UK and are looking to return to Edinburgh, it may be necessary for you to self-isolate for 14 days. An up-to-date list of any countries exempt from this restriction can be found on the Scottish Government website.

If you’re staying in University accommodation, our Residence Life teams will be there to support you if you need to self-isolate. If you have private accommodation, you will be able to self-isolate once you’ve reached your residence in Scotland. The Scottish Government has provided additional guidance on how and when you are required to self-isolate.

For the latest information on Scotland’s response to Covid-19, visit:

- The Scottish Government’s Covid-19 website
- NHS Inform: Scotland’s national health information service

Student accommodation
We’re putting the appropriate health and safety measures in place at all of our Student accommodation buildings. We will also have support in place, including meal deliveries, for any students who need to self-isolate.

If you’ve not organised your accommodation for the next academic year, there’s still time to apply for University accommodation:

Apply for student accommodation

Support
We will continue to keep you informed and updated over the coming months. The latest information and guidance about continuing your studies, returning to Edinburgh and the next academic year is available on our Student website, which we are updating regularly.

In the meantime, if you have any further questions, please contact your school who will be able to provide you with guidance on continuing your studies.

Best wishes,

James Smith
Vice Principal – International