Proposed Adjustments to the Sixth Edition of the Standards of Good Practice for Education Abroad

July 20, 2023
presented by the 2023 Standards Update Working Group

The 2023 Standards Update Working Group was convened in response to observations from the field and users of the Standards that the language in the current edition could be more inclusive of the experiential learning opportunities that exist under the umbrella of education abroad, e.g., internships, community engaged global learning, etc. The group has considered this feedback and drafted changes to address those concerns. The following changes are submitted for public comment.

Any person or entities who are materially affected by the Standards and changes to them are invited to submit their feedback on this proposal before August 11. For more information about this process, visit The Forum’s Standards Development webpage to review our policies.

Tracked changes denote proposed adjustments.

At the end of the “How to Use the Standards” section, we add the following sentence:

“Colleagues seeking more specific guidance tailored to particular types–e.g., internships, community engagement, health-related programs—or facets – e.g., partnerships, advising – of education abroad can find additional support in The Forum’s Guidelines series.”

3.25. LOCAL COMMUNITY
community in which an education abroad (3.11) participant (3.31) lives and learns

3.31. PARTICIPANT
individual who attends, provides, or teaches an education abroad program (3.40), including, but not limited to:
  ● program administrator
  ● on-site faculty/staff
  ● learner

3.38. PROCEDURES
a set way of doing something driven by the completion of a task with a focus on satisfying the rules, for example, in the event of:
  ● emergency evacuation
  ● response to sexual misconduct
termination from internship site
Note 1 to entry: Adapted from ISO Terms Definitions. [9]

3.39. PROCESS
a series of actions completed to achieve a desired outcome, including, but not limited to:
3.42. RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATION
entity responsible for the execution of a program (3.40) or portfolio of programs (3.36),
including, but not limited to:
- university
- college
- program provider organization
- partner (3.32)
- education abroad office
- professional school
- academic department
- career services office

Note 1 to entry: The responsible organization may be different for each program or institution.
Note 2 to entry: See also organization (3.28) and institution (3.24).

5.1 Each organization shall define policies, procedures and guidelines (and/or use the
Guidelines established by The Forum on Education Abroad) to govern its programs and
practices and prepare its personnel to apply them.”

Topical Index Entry Addition:

Internships, How to Use the Standards, 3.11, 3.39, 3.40