



Export Compliance and International Travel

Export controls and international travel are closely related topics that involve government regulations and restrictions aimed at protecting national security. These controls affect the movement of goods, technology, and information across the United States' borders. When you leave the U.S., you need to be aware of your responsibilities under export control regulations.

In many instances, university staff are able to temporarily take common technology and electronics that are subject to the Export Administration Regulations out of the country without an export license. If you are traveling with items that are subject to export controls, you may need to obtain a license to carry those items with you while you travel. These items include, but are not limited to:

- Scientific equipment
- Software and hardware to include laptops, cellphones, flash drives, etc.
- Certain chemicals
- Encryption technology
- Data that has limited distribution, proprietary, confidential, or sensitive controls

The Export Compliance Program tracks and provides advice for international travels in several ways. For international travel to certain countries deemed "high risk" by the U.S. government, the Export Compliance Program has established an approval stop in Chrome River for any pre-approvals entered for travel to those countries. The Export Compliance Program will reach out to the individual traveling and ask for:

- The entities/institutions they will be working with while abroad
- Background information on the reason for the travel

The Export Compliance Program does this to conduct background screenings on entities VCU plans to work with and to provide the traveler with export compliance guidance that fits their specific needs. The Export Compliance Program tracks all other international travel through Christopherson Business Travel and highly recommends that individuals use Christopherson for all travel including travel that is not reimbursed by the university.

If you plan to travel to Cuba, Iran, Syria, North Korea, Sudan or Ukraine, you must contact the Export Compliance Program at exportctrl@vcu.edu in advance of your travel. If you are traveling to a country deemed to be higher than Level 2 on the [State Department's travel advisory list](#), you must complete a [petition](#) for travel.