RISK PROFILING

Factor	Risk profile	Indications	Possible specific action to reduce risk
Work factors	High	Work with hazards that have potential to cause permanent injury or fatalities, including: • Construction site with work at height, dusts, moving machinery, electrical systems. • Operation of machinery with mechanical hazards such as high speed rotating parts, crushing or entanglement risks. • Laboratory work with toxic/hazardous materials. Community work with known high risk groups of clients or locations (drug abusers, homeless, violent patients). Work with animal bedding or large or dangerous animals. Activities requiring specific licences or qualifications (e.g. diving, flying aircraft, crewing an aerial device). Work involving significant hazards in small companies that do not have professional health and safety advice.	Seek confirmation from placement provider about expectations of student's prior competency in high risk activities, and ensure student meets these. Confirm that training & supervision will be provided by the placement provider throughout the placement. Include in the written communication with the placement provider. Consider pre-placement site visit.
	Medium	Working in proximity to high risk factors (but not directly with them).	Seek confirmation from placement provider that the student will not be expected to participate in high risk activities, and will be appropriately supervised in medium risk activities. Include in the written communication with the placement provider.
	Low	Office work or other low hazard environments and activities	None
Travel and transportat ion factors	High	Significant travel to reach placement, prolonged or on local transport facilities known to be high risk (poor driving or vehicle safety standards). Demanding travel during placement. Student required to drive others in unfamiliar vehicles.	Brief student on travel arrangements, discuss implications with them. Consider their experience. Get confirmation from them that they have relevant driving licences and insurances. Consider reducing risks by providing accompanied travel where practicable. Specify regular contact times.
	Medium	Night travel. Long daily commuting requirement.	Brief student on travel arrangements. Confirm that these are acceptable to them.
		Student required to drive familiar vehicle in	1

		reasonable conditions.	Advise them to check that they have the
			necessary driving licences and
			insurances.
	Low	No significant travel, comfortable daily commute. No driving associated with placement.	None.
Factor	Risk profile	Indications	Possible specific action to reduce risk
Location	High	Significant risk of civil disorder, crime or	Check Foreign and Commonwealth Office
and/or regional		similar danger (e.g. placement in war zones, countries where the Foreign and	restrictions and recommendations.
factors		Commonwealth Office (FCO) advises against travel).	Consult guides on appropriate behaviour, clothing, etc.
		Unavoidable lone or remote working in proximity to significant risk (e.g. medical student elective in a refugee camp).	Arrange briefing/information to be provided in conjunction with someone with local experience or knowledge of conditions (e.g. student on previous
		Medical and rescue services not available quickly or locally.	placement or a placement practitioner at a local HEI in the overseas country).
		Means of communication likely to be difficult or compromised.	
	Medium	Higher than normal risk of civil disorder, crime or comparable danger.	Check Foreign and Commonwealth Office restrictions and recommendations.
		Delays likely in communicating with tutors and others.	Provide information to students on guides on appropriate behaviour, clothing, etc.
		Placements abroad in areas identified as low risk by the FCO.	Supplement general briefing with information about medium risk factors.
	Low	Placements in the UK with no significant local risks.	None.
General/ environme ntal health factors	High	Regional/local health risks require mandatory and specific health protection measures e.g. inoculations.	Consult occupational health or medical/health professional for advice regarding immunisations and other preparations.
		Very hot or strenuous working conditions (e.g. manual working outdoors in the sun).	
		Very cold working conditions (e.g. catering placement in a food cold storage/cook chill or freeze facility).	
	Medium	Regional/local conditions require some precautionary measures, e.g. optional inoculations against diseases, medical travel kit is a sensible precaution.	Consult occupational health or medical/health professional for advice regarding immunisations and other preparations. A medical travel kit is a sensible precaution.
	Low	No significant environmental health risks.	None.

Factor	Risk Profile	Indications	Possible specific action to reduce risk
Individual student factors	High	The student has personal factors (e.g. health, disability, linguistic or cultural) which may increase the risk of illness or accident during work-related activity even following adjustments. The student has personal factors (e.g. health, disability, pregnancy, linguistic or cultural) which may require specific adjustments or support if living away from home, or makes them susceptible to episodes of illness.	Discuss activities of high risk with the student, try to eliminate or reduce them where possible. Engage with occupational health professional / disability support professionals to develop reasonable adjustments. Confirm these in the written communication with the placement provider.
	Medium	The student's knowledge, understanding, and skills are low for the type of work. The student has personal factors (e.g. health, disability, pregnancy linguistic or cultural) which may require specific adjustments or support during work, or in social interactions at work.	Engage with occupational health professional / disability support professionals to develop reasonable adjustments. Confirm these in the written communication with the placement provider.
	Low	The student has no long-term medical conditions or disability likely to cause episodes of illness or require specific support whilst on placement. Student has relevant knowledge, understanding and skills for the type of work.	None.
Insurance limitations	High	Locations, activities and/or circumstances that are excluded from the HEI's travel and other insurance cover. Locations where the placement provider's insurance does not cover the student for personal or third party liability associated with the work by the student.	If locations, activities and/or circumstances are excluded from the HEI's travel and other insurance cover, consider alternative placements. If placement is to proceed, additional specific insurances may be available. Consult the HEI's insurance specialist. Brief student on limitations of insurance cover (the small print).
	Medium	Locations, activities and/or circumstances that require prior acceptance from the HEI's insurers before being covered.	If locations, activities and/or circumstances require prior acceptance from the HEI's insurers, ensure notification and acceptance is given. Brief student on limitations of insurance cover (the small print)
	Low	Locations, activities and/or circumstances that are automatically included in the HEI's insurance cover.	None.

	UK locations (where the placement provider must have employers' liability insurance cover).	
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