

Export Control & International Travel

Why It Matters

International travel supports research, teaching, and collaboration. Even routine trips with a laptop can raise export control issues. Knowing the policy protects you, your research, and UTEP from unintentional violations of U.S., foreign, and Texas law, as well as University Policy.

Key Risks

- **Destination:** Some countries are sanctioned or have heightened restrictions
- **Materials:** Data, software, or specialized equipment you carry, access or present may be export-controlled.
- **Collaborators:** Certain individuals, organizations, or entities abroad may appear on restricted lists
- **Purpose:** The nature of your research or presentation can trigger an export control review.

What You Can Take

With an approved *Export Control Certification of Temporary Export of UTEP Property*, you may carry:

- Laptops, tablets, smartphones, USB drives, and smartwatches with standard commercial software.
- Presentations, publications, or data that are publicly available or qualify as fundamental research

When to Contact Export Control

You may need an export license if you travel with:

- Devices using specialized encryption or containing export-controlled data
- Research equipment, pathogens, toxins, or genetic materials
- Defense articles regulated by ITAR (e.g., spacecraft components)

Destination Requirements

Travel to sanctioned countries (e.g., Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Syria) requires prior authorization.

Travel to countries with heightened restrictions (e.g., China, Russia, Belarus) may involve additional review. UTEP faculty and staff must notify the Export Control Office of any personal travel to foreign-adversary nations prior to travel and submit a post-travel brief summarizing the trip.

Risks of Non-Compliance

- Personal: Civil fines, criminal charges, or loss of research privileges
- Institutional: Financial penalties and restricted ability to form international partnerships
- Research Impact: Delay or loss of future funding opportunities

For the most current program details and updates, visit

<https://www.utep.edu/research/research-protections/>

or contact us at

exportcontrol@utep.edu

What Faculty Should Do

- Contact the Export Control Office before travel involving research materials or data
- Confirm collaborators are not restricted parties
- Remove controlled or sensitive data from all devices with the assistance of the Helpdesk before travel
- When in doubt, assume a license may be needed.

Take the Next Step

Consult the Export Control Office well before departure. Provide details about research data, specialized equipment, or foreign collaboration. The office will assist with licensing and compliance requirements.

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