Read the following instructions and recommendations carefully. Anyone arriving in Copiapó, Chile without the designated safety gear and appropriate clothing (see below) will not be permitted to participate in the field trip.

I. CHECKLIST, Instructions and Recommendations

Prior to Departure

- **Information Required by SEG prior to departure:**
  - **Passport information:** All participants must submit to SEG their Passport information (name, number, country of issue, date of expiry) via the Medical Emergency and Travel Related Information Form, provided by SEG – this is required for access to mine properties.
  - **Proof of Insurance Coverage:** Participants must provide to SEG proof of insurance coverage valid in Chile. Carry your insurance ID card with you at all times during the field course.
  - **Liability Waiver Form:** Prior to participation in the field trip, you must sign and submit to SEG a liability waiver form, provided by SEG.
  - **Medical Emergency and Travel Related Information Form:** Participants must complete all sections of this form, sign and date, and return with a photo copy of passport and proof of insurance (electronic versions acceptable).

- **Visas:** Ensure you have the visas required by Chile for your nationality.

- **Designated Safety and Field Gear:** All participants must bring the following equipment/clothing required for mine visits—there will be no opportunity to obtain these items once the field trip begins:
  - Long pants and Long-sleeved shirts
  - Hardhat (lamp bracket optional)
  - STEEL-TOE boots
  - Reflective vest
  - Gloves
  - Safety eye protection (not sunglasses).
• Please bring all prescription medications and your written prescriptions – carry these with you, do not place in your checked baggage.

• **Photocopy your Passport:** Carry a photocopy of your Passport with you, keep it safe and separate from your Passport.

• **Luggage:** Pack lightly and use soft luggage where possible.

### In-Country

1. At international arrivals at Santiago Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport (SCL), you must present you valid Passport and you will receive a **Tourist Card** (stamped paper receipt) which allows stays of up-to 90 days. You must present this to all hotels (avoids IVA/VAT tax of 19%) and **must be shown to Customs when leaving Chile so do not lose it!**

2. **Reciprocity Fee:** Australian nationals must pay a one-time fee (US$117). This is paid by cash or credit card in the Immigration Area prior to entering the lines that lead to the International Police passport checkpoints. Look for signs.

3. Collect your luggage and proceed to customs.

4. Once clearing customs, ALL participants should change currency to the Chilean Peso at SCL. *There will not always be opportunities to change currency once the field trip begins.* Participants will need money for incidental expenses, including travel (shuttle) to the hotel in Copiapó, and dinners (except the closing dinner sponsored by SEGF) and personal expenses. Most establishments accept credit cards, but you should have some Chilean pesos on-hand. ATM cards are honored at bank ATM machines throughout the country where local currency can be withdrawn at low cost. Try finding bank ATMs at SCL airport before resorting to the more expensive Currency Exchange booths outside the baggage claim area.

5. Take your luggage and make your way to domestic (“National”) departures on **Level 3**. Check-in for your connecting flight, and check your baggage to Copiapó (CPO).

6. Upon arrival at Copiapó airport (Desierto de Atacama), the hotel is 54 km east in Copiapó city. Trip Leaders Bill and Erich will be arranging for organized shuttles from the airport – watch for signs or waving Leaders! Also, there are scheduled shuttles/buses, every 30-minutes available from the CPO airport – cost is approximately US$6. These make a number of stops in Copiapó – your stop is Hotel La Casona, at Bernardo O’Higgins 150, a block from the Museo Regional de Atacama (see attached maps). TELL THE DRIVER YOUR DESTINATION WHEN BOARDING THE BUS.

### General Information

• **Climate:** You will be travelling at 24° to 28° South Latitude – Antofagasta is on the Tropic of Capricorn – equal to Namibia, Botswana, and central Queensland, Australia (Southern Hemisphere) and central Mexico, Havana, Cuba, Egypt, northern India, and southern China (Northern Hemisphere). The weather will be Southern Hemisphere fall – average 68°F (82 to 54 max/min) / 20°C (28 to 12 max/min); it is a dry season. You will be at moderate elevation so bring layers for cool evenings. **Long pants and long-sleeved shirts are required for mine visits – NO EXCEPTIONS.** Carry sunscreen, lip balm, sunglasses, and a hat with a brim.
• **Sundries:** Bring toiletries and be prepared to room with other courteous and interesting students.

• **Time Zones:** Chilean Summer Time (CLST), GMT/UTC -3.

• **Mobile phone use:** Avoid expensive roaming charges. Most carriers offer limited-duration International call packages allowing affordable calling and text messaging to your home country while travelling overseas. Check with your provider before departure, and make sure your device will operate in Chile. Chile country code is +56; Copiapó city (area) code is 52; Taltal and Antofagasta are in the 55.
  
  – Calls from Chile: You will need to dial: 00 (Country Code)+(Area Code)+(Number)
  
  – Calls within Chile: From your mobile phone you will need to dial as if you are calling Chile from your home country.
    - US and Canadian Nationals – you will need to dial: 011+56+(Area Code)+(Number).
    - Australian Nationals – you will need to dial: 0011+56+(Area Code)+(Number).
    - Columbian Nationals – you will need to dial: 009+56+(Area Code)+(Number).
    - Hungary, Philippine, South African and Zambian Nationals – you will need to dial: 00+56+(Area Code)(Number).

  Chile Area Codes (by Region)
  
  Santiago (Region XIII) – 2
  Antofagasta/Taltal (Region II ) – 55
  Copiapó (Region III) – 52

• **Assist Card:** Some travelers like to carry this for medical needs. The Leaders of SFT 18 are very experienced in-country and communications are good along the itinerary route; hospital phone numbers and address are included in the SFT 18 Guidebook. SFT participants have not commonly needed these and **SFT is not recommending them** but check into their benefits and see if it is something you want to purchase. [www.assistcard.com/cl](http://www.assistcard.com/cl)
Region around Copiapó: Desierto de Atacama Airport is west of the Copiapó along Route 5, midway to the port town of Caldera.
Copiapó: Hotel La Casona labelled by “star”
Central Copiapó: Hotel La Casona marked by “star”. Termina De Buses Copiapo also marked by “star”.

Central Copiapó: Hotel La Casona marked by “star”, showing local restaurants.
Taltal: Hosteria Taltal marked by “star”. Local hospital shown.
Antofagasta: Holiday Inn Express labelled by “star”
Central Antofagasta: Holiday Inn Express marked by “star”. Showing local restaurants.