



**DATE: April 10, 2021**

## Updated Interim Guidance for Travelers Arriving in New York State (NYS)

This supersedes the previously issued April 1, 2021 guidance for *Interim Guidance for Quarantine Restrictions on Travelers Arriving in New York State Following Out of State Travel* and aligns with CDC requirements and recommendations for [domestic](#) and [international](#) travel released April 2, 2021.

### General Updates and Definitions

- **Fully vaccinated** is defined as being 2 or more weeks after the final dose (e.g., first for Janssen/Johnson & Johnson, second for Pfizer and Moderna) of the vaccine approved by the FDA or authorized by the FDA for emergency use.
  - Vaccines that are not authorized by the U.S. Federal Drug Administration (FDA) for emergency use or approved by the FDA do not satisfy this definition.
- **Recently recovered** is defined as 1) recovered from laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 by meeting the criteria for discontinuation of isolation, 2) within the 3-month period between date of arrival in New York and either the initial onset of symptoms related to the laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection or, if asymptomatic during the illness, the date of the laboratory confirmed test, and 3) asymptomatic after travel or new exposure.
- CDC and NYS recommend **delaying** international travel until the traveler is fully vaccinated.
- All travelers **must complete the [NYS Travel Form](#)** unless the traveler had left New York for less than 24 hours or is coming to New York from a contiguous state (i.e., Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont).

### Domestic Travel

- Domestic travel is defined as travel lasting 24 hours or longer to states or US territories other than contiguous states (i.e., Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont).
- There are generally **no quarantine, work furlough, or testing requirements** for asymptomatic domestic travelers. **Exceptions:**
  - **Unvaccinated health care personnel** who have **not recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months** and who work in **nursing homes, enhanced assisted living residences (EALRs) or assisted living programs (ALPs) must furlough for 14 days after arrival in New York**, consistent with CDC recommendations to avoid contact with people at higher risk for severe disease for 14 days after travel.

- **All unvaccinated domestic travelers** who have **not recovered from COVID-19** in the past 3 months **are recommended** to get tested 3-5 days after arrival in New York, consider non-mandated self-quarantine (7 days if tested on day 3-5, otherwise 10 days), and avoid contact with people at higher risk for severe disease for 14 days, regardless of test result.

### **International Travel**

All international travelers **must comply with all CDC requirements**, which currently include proof of negative test or recent COVID recovery in order to board airplanes headed to the US.

- **Currently CDC does not require quarantine, work furlough, or testing requirements** for asymptomatic international travelers.
- **New York follows that recommendation with the following exceptions:**
  - **Unvaccinated health care personnel who have not recovered from COVID-19** in the past 3 months and who work in **nursing homes, enhanced assisted living residences (EALRs) or assisted living programs (ALPs) must furlough for 14 days after arrival in New York from international travel**, consistent with CDC recommendations to avoid contact with people at higher risk for severe disease for 14 days after travel.
  - **Unvaccinated health care personnel who have not recovered from COVID-19** in the past 3 months working in **all other health care settings must furlough for 7 days** with a test on day 3-5 after arrival in New York from international travel, or furlough for 10 days if not tested.
  - **Fully vaccinated** individuals who have not recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months are **recommended to get tested 3-5 days** after arrival in New York from international travel.
  - **All unvaccinated international travelers** who have not recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months **are recommended** to get tested 3-5 days after arrival in New York, consider non-mandated self-quarantine (7 days if tested on day 3-5, otherwise 10 days), and avoid contact with people at higher risk for severe disease for 14 days, regardless of test result.
- Travelers from **Canada**, crossing at land borders subject to the agreement between the governments of the United States and Canada, are permitted to travel in accordance with said federal agreement and need not quarantine solely due to such federally authorized travel.

### **Recommendations for non-mandated self-quarantine**

- As noted above, in some situations quarantine may be recommended but not required.
- For situations where quarantine is recommended under this guidance, employers may develop policies for travel that either do or do not require furlough of affected staff.
- In addition, pursuant to Executive Order 202.60, as extended, any New York State resident who voluntarily travels to another state or country for travel that was not taken as part of the person's employment nor at the direction of the person's employer, will not be eligible for

benefits under New York's COVID-19 paid sick leave law, although an employer may voluntarily provide such leave.

- Regardless of any employer furlough requirements, individuals should self-quarantine when not at work, avoiding large gatherings or exposure to individuals at high risk.

### **Precautions for All Travelers**

Irrespective of quarantine or vaccination status, all travelers should:

- Monitor symptoms daily from day of arrival in New York through day 14;
- Continue strict adherence to all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions, including hand hygiene and the use of face coverings, through Day 14 (even if fully vaccinated); and
- **Immediately self-isolate** if any symptoms develop and contact the local public health authority or their health care provider to report this change in clinical status and determine if they should seek testing.

### **How to Quarantine**

Information for travelers who are recommended to quarantine follows. More information on safe quarantine is available [here](#).

- The individual must not be in public or otherwise leave the quarters that they have identified as suitable for their quarantine.
- The individual must be situated in separate quarters with a separate bathroom facility for each individual or family group. Access to a sink with soap, water, and paper towels is necessary. Cleaning supplies (e.g., household cleaning wipes, bleach) must be provided in any shared bathroom.
- The individual must have a way to self-quarantine from household members as soon as fever or other symptoms develop, in a separate room(s) with a separate door. Given that an exposed person might become ill while sleeping, the exposed person must sleep in a separate bedroom from household members.
- Food must be delivered to the person's quarters.
- Quarters must have a supply of face masks for individuals to put on if they become symptomatic.
- Garbage must be bagged and left outside for routine pick up. Special handling is not required.
- A system for temperature and symptom monitoring must be implemented to provide assessment in-place for the quarantined persons in their separate quarters.
- Nearby medical facilities must be notified, if the individual begins to experience more than mild symptoms and may require medical assistance.
- The quarters must be secure against unauthorized access.

### **Travel Advisory Exemptions**

NYS does not grant exemptions from the travel advisory for international travel. For more

information, international travelers should consult the [CDC website](#).

### **Resources**

Travel restrictions will help to contain the rates of COVID-19 transmission in New York State and will work to protect others from serious illness. All New Yorkers must take these travel directives seriously. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. For further information, please visit:

- [DOH COVID-19 Website](#)
- [NYS Local Health Department Directory](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) COVID-19 Website](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\) COVID-19 Website](#)