

Domestic Essential Travel Guidance (Overnight stay) during COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccinated Travelers

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect states differently and travel increases your chance of acquiring and transmitting COVID-19, however fully vaccinated travelers are less likely to get and spread COVID-19. Vaccinated travelers should still take steps to protect themselves and others. **For travel deemed essential and approved by your Supervisor**, travelers should do the following before departure:

- Complete “Returning to Campus Safely” Training via Career Pathways, Sign Pledge, and Download the Drexel Health Checker App prior to Travel
- Register your travel in GRAND: <https://drexel.edu/global/resources/travel-safety/Register-Your-Travel/>
- Book travel through World Travel on the Drexel One portal. Travel not booked via the travel portal will need to state reason with applicable quotes. Only approved travel will be eligible for reimbursement.
- Complete the full cycle of COVID-19 vaccination prior to Travel. As defined by the [CDC for vaccines approved for use in the United States](#), "people are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 2 weeks or more after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or 2 weeks or more after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen)". If you have obtained a COVID-19 vaccine in another country, please review the [Drexel Vaccine Requirements](#) for more information on Drexel’s acceptance of a non-U.S.-authorized COVID vaccine.
- Complete the [Pre-Travel Attestation](#) if you have not already done so.
- Make sure you are up to date with your routine vaccinations and the seasonal flu vaccine.

Before Travel:

- Plan for how you will access medical care in your destination should this be necessary. Verify that your health insurance will cover expenses there.
- Make a copy and/or take a picture of your COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card just in case you lose the original. Consider laminating the card once you are fully vaccinated.
- If you have a condition or are taking medications that weaken the immune system, talk to your healthcare provider to discuss your activities and any additional precautions you should take.
- In the week leading up to your departure, continue to monitor closely the local COVID-19 transmission rate for your destination and any local/tribal/state public health requirements. Helpful resources:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/index.html#cases>
 - Local/state public health sites for your destination
- **DO NOT TRAVEL if:**
 - **You are sick with fever, cough, or any of the symptoms of COVID-19**
 - **You have recently tested positive for COVID-19 with a viral test**

- You have had close contact with a person with COVID-19 in the past 14 days (Even if fully vaccinated you may want to self monitor for 7 days before traveling).
- You are waiting for the results of a COVID viral test.

For more information see:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>

During Travel – Take Steps to Protect Yourself and Others from COVID-19:

- Bring your COVID-19 Immunization Record Card with you.
- Wear a mask to keep your nose and mouth covered when in public settings.
- Avoid close contact by staying at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from anyone who is non-vaccinated or not from your household.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol).
- Avoid contact with anyone who is sick.
- Use the Drexel Health Checker app throughout your travel.

For Air

For Rail or Bus Travel see recommendations in the Public Transportation section below

Air travel may require spending time in security lines and airport terminals, which can bring you in close contact with other people. Most viruses and other germs do not spread easily on flights because of how air circulates and is filtered on airplanes. However, social distancing is difficult on crowded flights, and sitting within 6 feet of others, sometimes for hours, may increase your risk of getting COVID-19.

- If you are sick, DO NOT TRAVEL. Reschedule your flight.
- Wear a mask at all times in the airport/on the plane.
- Try to select non-stop options if possible or limit the number of stops.
- Select a window seat, if possible. Some airlines are holding the middle seat empty, but this is not a requirement for airlines so check first if this is your preference.

For Lodging

- Practice social distancing in all common areas.
- Wear a mask:
 - outside your room
 - in all indoor public spaces including elevators and stairwells
 - whenever interacting with people whose vaccination status is unknown

Local Transportation

If taking public transportation including Rail or Bus Travel:

Traveling on buses and trains for any length of time may involve sitting or standing within 6 feet of others, which may increase your risk of getting COVID-19.

- Masks are required on all forms of public transit, including airplanes, trains, buses traveling into, within, and outside of the United States. Wear a face covering or mask at all times.
- Practice social distancing and avoid crowded areas as much as possible. Consider traveling at non-peak times, leaving seats/rows between you and other passengers if possible.

- Follow all posted guidance and instructions provided by transit authorities. Look for social distancing instructions or physical guides, such as signs indicating where to stand or sit to remain at least 6 feet apart from others.

If using taxi or ride-share vehicles:

- Wear a face covering or mask at all times.
- Limit the number of passengers in the vehicle to vaccinated travelers only.
- Sit in the back seat or as far away from the driver as possible.
- Improve ventilation by opening windows or adjusting the AC to non-recirculation mode.

For more guidance see: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/using-transportation.html#PublicTransit>

Upon Arrival

- Reach out to local contact for an update on required protocols for any visits, activities that you may have and ensure that you understand whom to contact if you begin to experience COVID-19 symptoms and the nearest medical facility to where you will stay/work.
- Continue to monitor news for information on transmission rates and local requirements.

Recommended precautions for activities

- Meeting indoors without masks or physical distancing is possible with other fully-vaccinated people.
- Wear masks, maintain physical distancing and practice other preventative measures when meeting with unvaccinated people from multiple households or if you are unsure of the vaccination status of others.
- Avoid indoor medium to large-sized gatherings.; wear a mask for all outdoor large gatherings
- **Safest food options:** self-catering, delivery, take-out, curbside pick-up, outdoor / open-air eateries, etc.

Post-return responsibilities

- Monitor your health and use the Drexel Health Checker app if you are going to campus.
- If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.

If any symptoms develop:

- 1) Self-isolate and contact your primary care physician by phone for guidance and medical care.
- 2) Contact covid19health@drexel.edu with your name and phone number

Additional guidance is available on the [Drexel Response to Coronavirus](#) and the [US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) websites.

