

**From:** Mark Schwieterman  
**To:** All\_City  
**Date:** 5/21/2020 5:09 PM  
**Subject:** Important Information - Updated Travel Guidelines  
**Attachments:** COVID Travel Update 5-20-20.pdf

Good afternoon.

Under the May 20, 2020 Order from the Ohio Department of Health, if an employee returns to the state asymptomatic (not exhibiting symptoms identified in the screening guidance), they may be permitted to return to work without a 14 day self quarantine.

This is an update to the April 30, 2020 Stay Safe Ohio Order where persons entering the state, with the intent to stay, were asked to self quarantine for 14 days.

The City continues to ask that employees please review the questions from the attached CDC flier before considering any travel and strongly encourages employees not to travel outside the state of Ohio unless absolutely necessary.

Should employees still choose to travel, they will need to notify and consult with their Department Director and HR prior to travel. Employees will also need to talk to Department Directors and HR prior to returning to work to verify whether or not they are asymptomatic.

Attached is the City's updated travel policy including excerpts from Ohio Department of Health's Order and a flier from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Because of all of you, we are making excellent progress. Thank you.

Mark

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# COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE

## Updated Travel Guidelines



Employee Update 3-A  
Travel in the United States  
Released 5-21-20

Under the May 20, 2020 Order from the Ohio Department of Health, so long as an employee returns to the State asymptomatic (not exhibiting symptoms identified in the screening guidance), they may be permitted to return to work without a 14 day self quarantine.

This is an update to the April 30, 2020 Stay Safe Ohio Order where persons entering the state, with the intent to stay, were asked to self quarantine for 14 days.

The City continues to ask that employees please review the questions from the attached CDC flier before considering any travel, and is *strongly* encouraging employees not to travel outside the state of Ohio unless absolutely necessary.

Should employees still choose to travel, they will need to notify and consult with their Department Director and HR prior to travel. Employees will also need to talk to Department Directors and HR prior to returning to work to verify whether or not they are asymptomatic.

On May 20, 2020, Dr. Amy Acton signed a Director's Order that Rescinds and Modifies Portions of the Stay Safe Ohio Order that was signed on April 30, 2020. One of the modifications under this new order is to the prohibited and permitted travel section.

Under number 3 of this new order:

Section 5 (Prohibited and permitted travel) of this new Order the Director of Health Order signed April 30, 2020, that reopened businesses, with exceptions, and continues a stay healthy and safe at home order in the State is amended to read as follows:

Persons who have tested positive for COVID-19, are presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19, or are exhibiting the symptoms identified in the screening guidance available from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Ohio Department of Health, unless they have recovered, shall not enter the State, unless they are doing so under medical orders for the purposes of medical care, are being transported by Emergency Medical Services (EMS), are driving or being driven directly to a medical provider for purposes of initial care, or are a permanent resident of the State.

If employees have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact HR at 937-296-2446.

Stay safe and healthy!

Attachment: Considerations for Travelers - CDC



## Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

# Coronavirus in the United States—Considerations for Travelers

This page is about travel that is different from your everyday activities, away from your local community. For advice on how to safely meet basic household needs within your local community, see CDC's webpage about [running essential errands](#).

COVID-19 cases and deaths have been reported in all 50 states, and the situation is constantly changing. Because travel increases your chances of getting infected and spreading COVID-19, **staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from getting sick.**

If you are thinking about traveling away from your local community, ask:

- **Is COVID-19 spreading where you're going?** *You can get infected while traveling.*
- **Is COVID-19 spreading in your community?** *Even if you don't have symptoms, you can spread COVID-19 to others while traveling.*
- **Will you or those you are traveling with be within 6 feet of others during or after your trip?** *Being within 6 feet of others increases your chances of getting infected and infecting others.*
- **Are you or those you are traveling with more likely to get very ill from COVID-19?** *Older adults and people of any age who have a serious underlying medical condition are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.*
- **Do you live with someone who is more likely to get very ill from COVID-19?** *If you get infected while traveling you can spread COVID-19 to loved ones when you return, even if you don't have symptoms.*
- **Does the state or local government where you live or at your destination require you to stay home for 14 days after traveling?** *Some state and local governments may require people who have recently traveled to stay home for 14 days.*
- **If you get sick with COVID-19, will you have to miss work or school?** *People with COVID-19 disease need to stay home until they are **no longer considered infectious**.*

**Do not travel if you are sick, or if you have been around someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days. Do not travel with someone who is sick.**

## If You Travel

**Protect yourself and others during your trip:**

- Clean your hands often.
  - **Wash your hands** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, after touching surfaces frequently touched by others, after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, and before touching your face or eating.
  - If soap and water are not available, bring and use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub your hands together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Avoid close contact with others.
  - Keep 6 feet of physical distance from others.
- **Wear a cloth face covering in public.**
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Check with state or local guidance to find out what food service options (for example, dine-in or curbside pick-up) are allowed at your destination.

# Considerations for Types of Travel

Travel increases your chances of getting *and* spreading COVID-19. We don't know if one type of travel is safer than others; however, airports, bus stations, train stations, and rest stops are all places travelers can be exposed to the virus in the air and on surfaces. These are also places where it can be hard to [social distance](#) (keep 6 feet apart from other people).

Consider the following risks for getting or spreading COVID-19, depending on how you travel:

- **Air travel:** Air travel requires spending time in security lines and airport terminals, which can bring you in close contact with other people and frequently touched surfaces. 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 you may have to sit near others (within 6 feet), sometimes for hours. This may increase your risk for exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- **Bus or train travel:** Traveling on buses and trains for any length of time can involve sitting or standing within 6 feet of others.
- **Car travel:** Making stops along the way for gas, food, or bathroom breaks can put you and your traveling companions in close contact with other people and surfaces.
- **RV travel:** You may have to stop less often for food or bathroom breaks, but RV travel typically means staying at RV parks overnight and getting gas and supplies at other public places. These stops may put you and those with you in the RV in close contact with others.

## Anticipate Travel Needs

- Bring enough of your medicine to last you for the entire trip.
- Pack enough alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) and keep it within easy to reach.
- Bring a cloth face covering to wear in public places.
- Prepare food and water for your trip. Pack non-perishable food in case restaurants and stores are closed.
- If you are considering cleaning your travel lodgings, see CDC's guidance on how to [clean and disinfect](#).

## State and Local Travel Restrictions

Follow state and local travel restrictions. For up-to-date information and travel guidance, check the [state or local health department](#) *where you are, along your route, and at your planned destination*. While you are traveling, it is possible a state or local government may put into place travel restrictions, such as stay-at-home or shelter-in-place orders, mandated quarantines upon arrival, or even state border closures. Plan to keep checking for updates as you travel.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is it safe to travel to visit family or friends?

Travel increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19. Before you travel, learn if coronavirus is spreading in your local area or in any of the places you are going. Traveling to visit family may be especially dangerous if you or your loved ones are [more likely to get very ill from COVID-19](#). People at higher risk for severe illness need to take [extra precautions](#).

### Is it safe to travel to campgrounds/go camping?

Going camping at a time when much of the United States is experiencing community spread of COVID-19 can pose a risk to you if you come in close contact with others or share public facilities (like restrooms or picnic areas) at campsites or along the trails. Exposure may be especially unsafe if you are [more likely to get very ill from COVID-19](#) and are planning to be in *remote areas, without easy access to medical care*. Also be aware that many local, state, and national public parks have been temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

[More Information](#)

- [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#)
- [Health Information for International Destinations](#)

Page last reviewed: May 20, 2020