
From: owner-hrnetwork@lists.cumc.columbia.edu on behalf of Innes, William L. <wli2101@cumc.columbia.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 11:31 AM
To: hrnetwork@lists.cumc.columbia.edu
Subject: *Holiday and Vacation Travel Planning*



Dear Colleagues,

As we prepare for the upcoming holidays and winter season, many staff and faculty are expected to take time off and make travel plans.

As you are managing time off requests, please ensure employee requests for time off incorporate additional days to cover quarantine requirements if faculty/staff are planning to travel to a country or state that requires quarantine protocols. The impacted states/countries may vary from time to time so plans may need to change as a result.

In accordance with the [Updated New York State Travel Guidance](#), all Columbia affiliates arriving in New York from outside the United States or from a non-contiguous state are required to quarantine for a period of 14 days, or comply with the new testing requirements in [Executive Order 205.2](#).

Updated New York State Travel Guidance

Columbia University continues to urge caution around traveling, and the CDC has helpful [guidance](#) on minimizing risks over the holidays. You may be aware that Governor Cuomo has eased the 14-day quarantine requirement for many travelers to New York, but it is important to note that the requirement is being replaced with a new mandatory testing policy. Effective November 4, 2020, the New York State [Travel Advisory Executive Order 205.2](#) will be updated with changes to the quarantine requirements as follows:

All affiliates arriving in New York from outside the United States or from a non-contiguous state are required to quarantine for a period of 14 days consistent with Department of Health regulations, unless the following testing and quarantine guidance is met:

- **For travelers who travel outside of New York for less than 24 hours:**
 - The traveler need not test prior to departure from the state and does not need to quarantine upon arrival.
 - Such travelers must continue to fill out the traveler form upon entry.
 - The traveler must take a diagnostic test on the fourth day after arrival in New York.
- **For travelers who have traveled outside of New York for more than 24 hours:**
 - The traveler must seek testing prior to departure from that state or country, within 72 hours of departure.

- The traveler must, upon arrival in New York, quarantine according to Department of Health guidelines for a minimum of three days, measured from time of arrival.
- On day 4, the traveler may seek a diagnostic test to exit quarantine. The traveler may exit quarantine upon receipt of the second negative test result.

For information on scheduling a pre or post travel test, please visit the [COVID-19 Testing Process](#) page. Affiliates who qualify for the New York State exemption for essential workers and are deemed as such by their department (including frontline healthcare workers, researchers, some clinical students, etc.) may return to work 24 hours after receiving a negative COVID test but must adhere to all other appropriate precautions. Please see the [Exemptions for Essential Workers](#) and the [NYSTravel Advisory](#) for more details.

Please note that if these requirements are not met, the 14-day quarantine still applies.

Bill

William L. Innes
Chief Human Resources Officer - CUIMC
Associate Vice Dean - Human Resources
Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons
Columbia University Irving Medical Center
Georgian Building
617 West 168th Street, 2nd Floor
New York, N.Y. 10032
Phone: 212.305.9789
E-mail: wli2101@cumc.columbia.edu

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