

Faculty/Staff Travel

Creation Date: 10/15/20; amended 10/21/20

Faculty/Staff (all campuses):

Avoiding travel is one of the best ways to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Tufts University has adopted a broad essential-only travel policy. Examples of essential travel include family emergencies such as death or critical illness, and other personal matters which require your physical presence. Some travel may also be essential for certain types of sponsored research. Leisure travel, both in region and out-of-region as defined by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts^[1] is strongly discouraged.

Should travel be necessary, Tufts faculty and staff must abide by Massachusetts' travel policy and either remain in quarantine for 14 days upon return or remain in quarantine until such time as they have received a negative COVID-19 test, if they have traveled out-of-region.¹ This means that travelers returning from out-of-region may not come to campus except for surveillance testing until they have completed quarantine or have received a negative COVID-19 test.

Although we discourage all but truly essential travel, Tufts offers COVID-19 testing to clear travel quarantine to all faculty and staff except those working remotely. Faculty and staff who participate in routine COVID-19 surveillance testing may test immediately on return from travel but must wait for a negative result before returning to campus to work. Those faculty or staff who work on campus but due to their job descriptions are not in routine COVID surveillance testing may contact covidtesting@tufts.edu to schedule a test in advance at any of the following three locations: 62R Talbot (Medford/Somerville campus), 116 Harrison Ave (Boston campus), or the Mayer Administrative Building (Grafton Campus).

Faculty and staff who develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should consult with Marathon Health or their personal physician and should not come to the campus testing centers.”

Individuals choosing not to receive a COVID-19 test must remain in quarantine for 14 days upon return from an out-of-region destination as defined by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health travel policy and may not return to campus.^[1,2]

Most Tufts University work-related travel remains subject to our no discretionary spending directive, which remains in effect for the entire year; however, exceptions may be granted by school deans when travel is essential for the purposes of conducting research.

Upon return from travel, you should plan to use vacation or personal time for time at home, awaiting clearance to return to work, unless you have pre-arranged with your supervisor to work remotely. Questions regarding this policy may be directed to Faculty Affairs or Human Resources.

This is a very difficult time for all of us, and we are weathering this storm together as a community. Limiting travel represents a hardship, but it is an additional measure to keep our community as safe as possible. We have started the semester in a very good place with very few COVID-19 cases. Whether we can continue with in-person on-

1 <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order#lower-risk-states->

2 <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order>

campus education will require everyone to be on board with all our safety measures. We are appealing to your professionalism to help guide your behavior during the pandemic.

This policy will be reviewed periodically as conditions change and thus is subject to modification.

Affiliates (all campuses):

Avoiding travel is one of the best ways to protect yourself and others from COVID-19. Tufts University has adopted a broad essential-only travel policy. Examples of essential travel include family emergencies such as death or critical illness and other personal matters which require your physical presence. Leisure travel, both in region and out-of-region as defined by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts^[3] is strongly discouraged.

Should travel be necessary, Tufts Affiliates must abide by Massachusetts' travel policy and either remain in quarantine for 14 days upon return or remain in quarantine until such time as they have received a negative COVID-19 test, if they have traveled out-of-region.^[3,4] This means that travelers returning from out-of-region may not come to campus until they have completed quarantine or have received a negative COVID-19 test.

Although we discourage all but truly essential travel, Tufts offers COVID-19 testing to clear travel quarantine to Affiliates who are in our routine surveillance testing program. Affiliates may arrange their routine testing to occur immediately on return from travel, but they must not return to campus until they receive a negative test result.

This policy will be reviewed periodically as conditions change and thus is subject to modification.

3 <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order#lower-risk-states->

4 <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order>