

Policy on University-connected Travel for Faculty, Staff, and Students: Summer 2022

This document summarizes the University's travel policy for summer 2022 and supersedes the spring 2022 policy. In addition to this university-wide guidance outlined below, any school or unit-specific policies, procedures or restrictions must be followed.

1) Domestic travel

All domestic travel for university-related purposes is permitted. All travelers are advised to follow [CDC guidance on domestic travel](#), as well as adhere to policies of the states/localities they are visiting, and to follow the [CDC's safe travel guidance](#) to protect themselves and others during the conduct of research.

Upon return to campus, all travelers must abide by Tufts' requirements described in 3) below.

2) International travel

International travel by individual faculty, staff or students or by university-affiliated groups for university-related purposes is allowed. The requirement that faculty, staff, and students seeking to travel internationally on university-related business obtain explicit approval from the [Dean \(or their designee\) of the school or unit](#) no longer applies.

Additional Requirements: All other approvals and requirements for international travel are still in effect, including:

- a) **Approval of [Integrative Safety Committee](#) (ISC) for human subjects research.** This is required for all international human subjects research.
- b) **International travel by undergraduate and graduate students must adhere to the existing [International Travel Policy](#).** Students traveling internationally must obtain approval from the International Travel Review Committee for all international travel to countries and regions with a US Department of State Travel Advisory of level 3 or higher and must register their travel in the [Tufts Travel Registry](#).
- c) **Faculty and staff must register their international travel in the [Tufts Travel Registry](#).**
- d) **Travelers should be informed of their department's or school's policies regarding reimbursement of any additional expenses that might be incurred if the traveler contracts COVID-19 while abroad.** If circumstances change when a traveler is in country, they may become stranded indefinitely (either because of quarantines and other restrictions, lack of access to testing, or lack of means of transportation to return home), at potentially significant personal and financial cost. While the Tufts [international travel assistance and](#)

[medical program](#) does provide coverage for quarantine costs in some cases, there may be circumstances that are deemed ineligible and where additional, non-quarantine related costs are incurred. Please note that notification of any staff/faculty international travel on non-sponsored funds will be sent to the appropriate EAD to account for potential for financial exposure.

- e) **All international travelers are required** to abide by Tufts' requirements described in 3) below upon return. All international travelers are also highly encouraged to book through the university's preferred travel provider, Travel Collaborative, and to try to find airlines, hotels or rentals that are offering flexible cancellation and refund policies.

3) Return from travel—testing

Upon return from travel—both university-related and personal—Tufts faculty, staff and students must abide by [Tufts' requirements](#). This means that upon return, vaccinated, asymptomatic travelers may resume normal campus activities. Any returning traveler with symptoms that could be COVID-19 must seek medical attention from Tufts Health Services or their Primary Care Physician and receive a negative test prior to resuming on-campus activities. At all times upon return, individuals must follow all COVID-19 policies in place at the time.

4) Precautions while traveling

Traveling – along with other factors - can significantly increase your risk of exposure, especially if you are unvaccinated. If you do travel, we urge you to exercise caution.

We urge you to:

- Delay travel until you are fully vaccinated (this means 2 weeks after completion of a primary series), and, if you are eligible, obtain a booster. If you are not vaccinated, you are more likely to get and spread COVID-19. If you are unvaccinated and must travel, CDC guidance recommends getting tested within 1-3 days of your trip in addition to following the basic precautions listed below while traveling. Individual countries and/or airlines may have different requirements.
- Monitor both [domestic](#) and [international destinations](#) where COVID-19 is present, as well as information, travel warnings, health advisories, travel and movement restrictions (e.g., use of public transportation, border closings, screening procedures at airports/stations, etc.) and quarantine requirements and conditions at your destination. These do change frequently. The [CDC website](#), as well as the [European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control \(ECDC\)](#), [U.S. Department of State](#), and [International SOS](#) provide useful updated information. Johns Hopkins University's [Center for Systems Science and Engineering](#) also has an excellent site with daily updates of cases worldwide.

- Take the basic precautions [recommended by the CDC](#) while you travel. Your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19 depends on your own behavior as well as your travel pattern, destination or means of transportation. Therefore, you should be sure to:
 - Avoid close contact with sick people
 - Distance yourself from others—staying at least 6 feet away to prevent exposure through coughing—and avoid crowds
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a mask
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60 percent to 95 percent alcohol.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
 - Do not share drinks/food/cigarettes, utensils, vaping products, etc.