Travel

The following travel guidance pertains to all Cornell employees.

Employees have a critical role to play in reducing the possibility of COVID-19 transmission within our campus and surrounding community by avoiding non-essential travel, whether for university business or personal reasons. Cornell requires all faculty, staff, and students to fully comply with all state, federal, and international travel guidelines.

Asymptomatic travelers entering New York from another country, U.S. state, or territory are no longer required to test or quarantine as of April 10, 2021. Quarantine, consistent with the CDC recommendations, is still recommended for all travelers who are not fully vaccinated or have not recovered from laboratory confirmed COVID-19 during the previous 3 months. Symptomatic travelers must immediately self-isolate and contact the local health department or their healthcare providers to determine if they should seek COVID-19 testing. Symptomatic travelers must immediately self-isolate and contact the local health department or their healthcare providers to determine if they should seek COVID-19 testing. All travelers must complete the Traveler Health Form unless the traveler had left New York for less than 24 hours or is coming to New York from a contiguous state. Contiguous states to New York are Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont.

Refer to New York state's travel advisory page for updates and additional information.

In addition to the NYS guidance, Cornell guidance clarifies that employees who are fully vaccinated will not be required to quarantine and can return to campus upon completion of their domestic travel. It is recommended that such individuals still seek supplemental testing on day 1 and day 4. Employees who are not fully vaccinated will no longer be required to quarantine following travel (as per NYS and CDC guidelines). However, upon return, these individuals will be encouraged to work from home for a 5-day period. It is recommended that these individuals access supplemental testing on day 1 and day 4 upon return and, if both tests are negative, then return to campus.

Upon return to campus, employees are required to complete the Daily Check each day they come to campus and resume their regular surveillance testing schedule. Cornell COVID-19 Surveillance Testing facilities are available for these tests, for employees who are authorized and cleared to be on campus through the Daily Check process. Appointments are required. Employees who are not approved to be on campus may schedule an appointment at one of the off-campus surveillance testing sites (East Hill Plaza, Collegetown or Downtown) or at a Cayuga Health Sampling Site. You will have no out-of-pocket expenses for this testing; be sure to identify as a Cornell employee and use your Cornell email address.

Please also review the COVID-19 Cornell Travel and Visitor Policy.

Personal Travel

Employees who are not fully vaccinated and choose to follow the recommendation to quarantine are expected to work remotely, use their leave accruals or be placed on an unpaid leave if accruals aren’t available.

International Travel

International travelers arriving in New York must comply with all CDC requirements, which currently include proof of negative
test or recent COVID recovery in order to board airplanes headed to the US. All travelers must complete the NYS traveler health form.

New York follows the CDC recommendations with the following exceptions:

- Fully vaccinated individuals who have not recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months are recommended to get tested 3-5 days after arrival in New York from international travel.
- All unvaccinated international travelers who have not recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months are recommended to get tested 3-5 days after arrival in New York, consider non-mandated self-quarantine (7 days if tested on day 3-5, otherwise 10 days), and avoid contact with people at higher risk for severe disease for 14 days, regardless of test result.

If the employee travelled on approved international business travel, they will be expected to work remotely. If working remotely is not possible, they will be placed on paid leave for the duration of their travel quarantine and will not be required to use their leave accruals (HAP or vacation). If the employee travelled for personal reasons, they will be expected to work remotely, use their leave accruals or be placed in an unpaid leave if accruals aren’t available.

Related:
Seeking Approval to Return to Work Prior to the Completion of Quarantine

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### Time Away and Return to Work

Cornell asks that all employees who will be out of work for more than 3 days complete the "Submit or Change Time Away" form. Completing this form will pause Daily Check and surveillance testing requirements.

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### New Employees Arriving in the Local Area

New employees arriving in the local area must follow the requirements contained in the New York State Travel Advisory. Additionally, Cornell requires that new employees, who are not fully vaccinated, and who will be working, even occasionally, on campus seek a test for COVID-19, and obtain a negative result, prior to their first day. Those who work fully remotely may choose to be tested.

Effective April 15, all employees are required to submit proof of vaccination through COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination Process through the Daily Check site once they have completed the dose schedule for their vaccination. This process allows all faculty, staff and students to easily upload proof of vaccination (e.g., an image of your CDC vaccination card).

See below for guidance on scheduling a test. If subject to a quarantine resulting from international travel or a positive test result and the quarantine period extends beyond an employee's first day of work they will be expected to work remotely if they are asymptomatic and their work duties make remote work possible. If their job responsibilities do not allow for them to work remotely, they will be placed on paid leave for the duration of their quarantine. Employees will not be required to use accruals during the paid leave. If not cleared to work after 14 calendar days, the employee should consult with Medical Leaves Administration to move to another type of leave if appropriate.

*Note: When responding to the online scheduling questions please keep the information below in mind.*

- For the question of “I am seeking COVID testing because” please select “My employer, school or other organization is recommending or requiring screening”.
- Then select “Cornell Employee”
- Skip the optional insurance questions when registering for testing