Detailed Domestic Travel Guidance for USF 4/30/2021

Domestic Travel for Fully Vaccinated Persons

The **CDC** now allows fully vaccinated persons to travel within the United States without testing and without post-travel self-quarantine as long as they take all COVID-19 precautions while traveling – wearing a mask, avoiding crowds, socially distancing, and washing hands frequently.

USF will consider requests to travel domestically from fully vaccinated persons. Because the virus is still actively circulating, the Task Force will continue to review requests to confirm that the travel is time-sensitive, required, or essential and cannot be postponed or handled remotely, and that the traveler understands their responsibilities to follow all mitigation measures while en route and at the destination.

Because it has been demonstrated that it is possible for a fully vaccinated person to become infected, anyone experiencing any COVID-like symptoms post-travel should self-isolate and seek medical advice. Because it is theoretically possible for a fully-vaccinated person infected but with no symptoms to transmit the virus to others, people should take extra care to minimize contact with others, wear face coverings when around others, and follow all other COVID mitigation measures for two weeks post-travel.

Domestic Travel for Unvaccinated Persons

**CDC’s relaxed guidance for vaccinated travelers does not change the agency’s existing guidance for people who are not fully vaccinated. Unvaccinated travelers should still get tested 1-3 days before domestic travel and again 3-5 days after travel. They should stay home and self-quarantine for 7 days after travel or 10 days if they don’t get tested at the conclusion of travel. CDC discourages non-essential domestic travel by those who are not fully vaccinated.**

USF will continue to prohibit travel for unvaccinated persons. Requests for exceptions must answer the questions: can the event be postponed, can the activity be accomplished remotely, and what imperative associated with the travel outweighs the risk of travel (grant requirement, contract deliverable, critical partnership, degree program/graduation requirement, unique and important career development (e.g., training program) or advancement (e.g. conference keynote address) opportunity, etc.)

Should approval to travel be granted, the traveler must arrange to be tested 1-3 days before traveling and can only travel if the test result is negative. The traveler must agree to follow all mitigation measures while traveling and at the destination (physical distancing, wearing a face covering at all times, avoiding crowds, disinfecting and handwashing, and monitoring symptoms). Evidence that the destination is following COVID mitigation measures is also helpful in the review process.

Upon return from approved travel, the traveler must plan to self-isolate for a minimum of seven days upon return, and arrange to be tested at day five; if the test is negative, the traveler can exit self-isolation on the eighth day post travel if asymptomatic. If the traveler does not wish to be tested or cannot be tested, the traveler must self-isolate for ten days, only exiting self-isolation on the eleventh day post travel. If the test at day five is positive and the traveler is asymptomatic, then the traveler must remain in self-isolation for a full 10 days from the date of test. If symptoms emerge, the traveler must seek medical advice.