



Office of Children and Family Services

Interim Guidance Upon Return

From Out of State Travel.

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Date: November 17, 2020

From: Division of Child Care Services, OCFS

To: Child Care Providers, Licensors, Registrars, and Enrollment Agencies

Summary:

This updates the previously issued guidance from OCFS reflective of the new Interim Guidance for Quarantine Restrictions on Travelers Arriving in New York State Following Out of State Travel. Updates include: New testing and quarantine criteria for travelers to New York from non-contiguous states and other countries.

Background:

In response to increased rates of COVID-19 transmission in certain states and countries, and to protect New York's successful containment of COVID-19, New York State has issued a travel advisory for anyone coming to New York after travel to states that are not contiguous to New York, or after travel to any CDC Level 2 or Level 3 Travel Health Notice country.

Quarantine Criteria for Travel

All travelers entering New York from a state that is not a contiguous state, or from a CDC Level 2 or 3 Travel Health Notice country, shall quarantine for a period of 14 days, consistent with Department of Health regulations for quarantine, **unless**:

1. For travelers who traveled outside of New York for more than 24 hours, such travelers must obtain testing within 72 hours prior to arrival in New York, AND
2. Such travelers must, upon arrival in New York, quarantine according to Department of Health guidelines, for a minimum of three days, measured from time of arrival, and on day 4 may seek a diagnostic test to exit quarantine.

For travelers that meet the criteria above, the traveler may exit quarantine upon receipt of the second negative test result.

Contiguous states are Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont. Travelers from these states are not subject to this guidance.

Travelers who leave New York State for less than 24 hours do not need to obtain a diagnostic test before departing and do not need to quarantine upon return. However, such travelers must fill out the traveler form upon entry and must obtain a diagnostic test on the fourth day after arrival in New York.

For more information on the quarantine requirements and other procedures for travelers, please see the NYS Department of Health guidance found at the following link

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/11/interm_guidance_travel_advisory.pdf

Guidance for Child Care Programs regarding children in attendance:

Any person entering New York from travel to a non-contiguous state or designated country, and if such travel was for longer than 24 hours, the person is required to quarantine until testing out or for a full 14 days, as required by the NYS Department of Health guidance linked above and below. Any such person may not attend a childcare program until standards to leave quarantine have been met.

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/11/interm_guidance_travel_advisory.pdf

Guidance for Child Care Programs regarding employees, volunteers, household members of home-based programs and all other individuals on-site at the program:

Any child care program employee, and other individuals on-site at the program, who have entered New York from travel to a non-contiguous state or designated country, if such travel was for longer than 24 hours, is required to quarantine for a minimum of 3 days after returning to New York from a designated state or country, and must be tested on day 4 after arriving, pursuant to EO 205.2. Any such person may not be present in a child care program until they provide evidence of a negative test result.

Although such workers are essential, the travel advisory exemption for essential workers does not apply to teachers, school employees, or child care workers, due to the sensitivity of these congregate settings.

Please consult the DOH website and resources for additional details and information regarding isolation procedures for when a person under quarantine is diagnosed with COVID-19 or develops symptoms.