

New York State Travel Advisory and Quarantine Requirements

October 20, 2020

In response to increased rates of COVID-19 transmission in certain states within the United States, and to protect New York's successful containment of COVID-19, the State has joined with New Jersey and Connecticut in jointly issuing a travel advisory for anyone returning from travel to states that have a significant degree of community-wide spread of COVID-19.

All travelers to a state with either a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents over a seven-day rolling average; or a testing positivity rate of higher than a 10% over a seven-day rolling average will be required to quarantine for a period of 14 days consistent with the Department of Health (DOH) regulations for quarantine. The designated states with significant community spread will be conspicuously posted on the [DOH website](#) and will be updated weekly.

Tompkins County Employees who have traveled or are planning travel to any designated state or territory must notify their supervisor immediately. The current list of designated states and territories includes:

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Guam
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Virginia
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

(Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania meet the criteria for the travel advisory but due to the region's interconnectedness, quarantine is not practically viable. As such, we highly discourage non-essential travel between these states and New York to the extent practical.)

Employees entering NYS after visiting a designated state from June 25, 2020, onwards are required to quarantine for a period of 14 days, i.e., remain away from their work locations for fourteen (14) days after entering NYS.

Employees who are asymptomatic and able to telework may be allowed to telework during the quarantine period.

If unable to telework during the quarantine period, employees may be eligible to utilize Federal Paid Sick Leave under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). Visit the Human Resources website for more information on FFCRA, including required documentation for this leave. If FFCRA has already been utilized and is no longer available, employees must use their leave accruals. Contact Human Resources for more information.

Per Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.45, New York State sick leave benefits (NYS Quarantine Law or "Q Law") cannot be used for the required 14 day quarantine if the travel to a designated state was voluntary and not taken as a part of Tompkins County employment or at the direction of Tompkins County.

Exceptions to the 14 day quarantine period exist for essential workers (eg Sheriff's Deputies, Corrections Officers, Emergency Dispatchers and others as identified here: <https://esd.ny.gov/guidance-executive-order-2026>). Per the New York State Department of Health, essential workers are not subject to mandatory quarantine after travel, but should:

- Seek diagnostic testing for COVID-19 as soon as possible upon arrival (within 24 hours) to ensure they are not positive;
- Monitor temperature and signs of symptoms, wear a face covering when in public, maintain social distancing, clean and disinfect workspaces for a minimum of 14 days;
- To the extent possible, avoid extended periods in public, contact with strangers, and large congregate settings for a period of, at least, 7 days.

This directive is subject to change upon receipt of further guidance from the Governor's Office, the NYS Department of Health and/or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).