Mercer County – COVID-19 Travel Guidance

On June 24, 2020, Governor Murphy issued a travel advisory that all individuals traveling from states with significant community spread of COVID-19 quarantine for a 14-day period from the time of last contact within the identified state. This quarantine applies to any person arriving from a state with a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents or a state with a 10% or higher positivity rate over a 7-day rolling average. The State of New Jersey will continually update and publish on their respective websites a list of states to which the new advisory applies. This information will be updated regularly.

County Employees are requested to take precautions if traveling, particularly internationally or to areas experiencing a widespread transmission of the COVID-19 as indicated above.

Therefore, if you make the decision to travel to any of these areas, here are the County's expectations and recommended guidelines:

- As an extension of the time-off approval process, all employees are requested to notify their Department Heads of any anticipated out-of-state travel plans to those affected states identified on the state of New Jersey’s website at https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/general-public/can-i-travel-to-new-jersey-if-im-a-resident-can-i-travel-out-of-state-are-airports-bridges-and-tunnels-open. For any time-off already approved, please make your Department Head aware if your travel plans will be out of the state.

- Before returning to work, any employees whose travel to one of the identified “high risk” states must quarantine for a 14-day period as outlined above. During that quarantine time, you will be required to utilize your accrued leave time or in coordination with Human Resources, arrange to apply for the applicable leave options set forth by the Human Resources Department.

- If your vacation was booked and paid for prior to March 16, 2020, please provide confirming documentation for further consideration of the use of accrued time.

- The County Administration, working closely with the Department Heads, will assess each situation and communicate frequently as rules and recommendations frequently change.

- Currently, the states that meet the criteria for quarantine are:
  - Alabama (added 6/24/20)
  - Alaska (added 7/21/20)
  - Arkansas (added 6/24/20)
  - Arizona (added 6/24/20)
  - California (added 6/30/20)
  - Delaware (added 7/21/20)
  - Florida (added 6/24/20)
  - Georgia (added 6/30/20)
See below for additional guidance on travel.

Domestic Travel

The CDC advises not to travel if you are sick, or if you have been around someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days. Do not travel with someone who is sick.

If you're thinking about travelling, consult the CDC's guide to assess your risk and other considerations.

For up-to-date information and travel guidance, check the state or local health department where you are, along your route, and at your planned destination.

While you are traveling, it is possible a state or local government may put into place travel restrictions, such as stay-at-home or shelter-in-place orders, mandated quarantines upon arrival, or even state border closures. Plan to keep checking for updates as you travel.

International Travel

The CDC recommends avoiding all non-essential international travel due to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

If you travelled internationally in the last 14 days, the CDC recommends you stay home, monitor your health, and practice social distancing for 14 days after you return from travel.

Learn more about what to do if you are sick after travel.

Airports

Airports remain open and air travel continues. Travelers must wear face coverings at airport terminals and on public transportation.
For flights, cancellations, or rerouting, please contact your airline directly for the latest information.

For additional domestic travel information, please visit the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov), and for additional international travel information, please visit [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov)

The situation is changing frequently, so please check the above resources for the most up-to-date information.

**Revised: 7/22/20**