

## Safe Travels this Holiday Season

Dec 21, 2020



While we long to spend the holidays with loved ones near and far, travel may increase your chance of spreading and getting COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends postponing travel and staying home, as this is the best way to protect yourself and others this year.

If you are considering traveling for the winter holidays, the CDC suggests asking these important questions to help you decide what is best for you and your family.

- Are you, someone in your household, or someone you will be visiting at increased risk for getting sick from COVID-19?
- Are cases high or increasing in your community or at your destination? Check [CDC's COVID Data Tracker](#) for the latest number of cases by area.
- Are hospitals in your community or at your destination overwhelmed with patients who have COVID-19? To find out, check [state and local public health department websites](#).
- Does your home or destination have requirements or restrictions for travelers? Check [state and local requirements](#) before you travel.
- During the 14 days before your travel, have you or those you are visiting had close contact with people they don't live with?
- Do your plans include traveling by bus, train, or airplane, which might make staying 6 feet apart difficult?
- Are you traveling with people who don't live in your home?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, you should consider making other plans, such as hosting a virtual gathering or delaying your travel.

If your answers are *no* and you do decide to travel, be sure to take these steps during your trip to protect yourself and others from COVID-19:

- Check [travel restrictions](#) before you go.
- Check CDC's [Domestic Travel Guidance](#) and consider getting a COVID-19 test before and after you travel.
- Get a flu shot before you travel.
- Always wear a mask in public settings, when using public transportation and when around people who don't live in your home.
- Wear your mask over your nose and mouth, secure it under your chin, and make sure it fits snugly against the sides of your face.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from anyone who does not live with you.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your mask, eyes, nose and mouth.
- Bring extra masks and hand sanitizer.
- If driving, pack your food and limit stops.

Employees who travel outside their state for 48 hours or more for personal reasons should review the Travel Protocol with their supervisor prior to traveling and complete the [Employee Return from Travel Form](#) on Safe Workplace when returning. Employees do not need to contact the Covid-19 Hotline regarding personal travel.

Pennsylvania residents traveling outside the state for longer than 24 hours and for personal reasons must do one of the following before returning to work:

- Provide a negative COVID-19 test
- Quarantine for 10 days upon returning to the state

Have a safe and happy holiday season and stay off the naughty list by remembering to wear a mask, wash your hands and stay 6 feet away from those who don't live with you.