

BEYOND RECOVERY: SAFE TRAVELS HAWAI'I

A program and strategy to support safe travel to and within Hawai'i

Prepared by the Office of the Governor, State of Hawai'i

This Safe Travels Hawai'i program and strategy aims to protect the lives and livelihoods of the people of Hawai'i, and presents a process to adapt to new safety protocols in a dynamic situation. The multi-layered screening and testing approach that comprises this program will continue to be evaluated, and the recommendations herein will be updated as required.

October 15, 2020

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Overview

Like its counterparts across the United States, the State of Hawai'i is in the process of learning to live safely with COVID-19, the novel coronavirus that emerged in December 2019. As of October 2020, the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic continues to upend the health and economic wellbeing of communities across the United States and the world at large.

In the early stages of the COVID-19 global pandemic, Hawai'i witnessed one of the lowest case rates per capita of transmission and led the nation as one of the best performing states. Through the application of **Safe Practices**, Hawai'i's communities took responsibility for a consistent downward trajectory in new cases, a 90% recovery rate, and Hawai'i's hospitals developed significant surge capacity to protect kama'āina from further outbreaks.

To control the spread of COVID-19 within Hawai'i, a mandatory 14-day Trans-Pacific travel quarantine was enacted on March 26, 2020, followed by a 14-day inter-island travel quarantine on April 1, 2020. The 14-day travel quarantines proved to be among the most effective tools in Hawai'i's fight against COVID-19 – along with the closure of all but essential businesses, and the widespread use of face coverings and adherence to physical distancing.

As a result of the 14-day travel quarantines, the initial number of travelers arriving in Hawai'i fell by over 99%, and currently remains at 98.5% of previous traveler volume. In addition, the implementation of comprehensive screening measures at Hawai'i's airports successfully mitigated the spread of COVID-19 from arriving travelers.

Between May and July 2020, businesses and operations reopened in a stepwise fashion in accordance with the State of Hawai'i <u>Beyond Recovery: Reopening Hawai'i</u> strategy. In addition, the 14-day inter-island quarantine was first lifted on June 16, 2020 to help reconnect local activities and stimulate short-term, kama'āina-based economic recovery.

Following the July 4th holiday weekend, along with statewide hurricane preparation response to storm Douglas in July 2020, COVID-19 disease activity began surging in the State of Hawai'i's most populous county – the City and County of Honolulu, located on the Island of O'ahu. The surge of COVID-19 transmission was primarily attributed to uncontrolled social gathering and inconsistent adherence to *Safe Practices*.

This apparent increase in disease activity, if left unchecked, threatened to overwhelm O'ahu's hospital system and underscored the need to take preventative measures and increase contact tracing capacity. At this time, Governor David Ige approved a partial reinstatement of the 14-day inter-island quarantine on August 11, 2020. Following, the City and County of Honolulu, with approval from Governor Ige, issued a "Stay at Home,

Work from Home" order from August 27 to September 10, which was later extended to September 24, 2020.

As a result of these mitigation actions, as of October 2020, COVID-19 disease activity is on a consistently downward trend, and the State of Hawai'i continues to have one of the lowest fatality rates in the United States, with a rate of 8 deaths per 100,000 people¹.

While ongoing efforts to protect the health and well-being of Hawai'i's people have prevented many potential deaths, these efforts also resulted in devastating financial impacts to Hawai'i's local families. Due to Hawai'i's large visitor industry, many businesses and individual jobs are dependent on the travel industry.

As such, a safe increase in inter-island and Trans-Pacific travel was identified as a critical short-term recovery priority for the State of Hawai'i. Through a comprehensive *Safe Travels Hawai'i* program, which includes multi-layered testing and screening protocols, Hawai'i can provide a safe option for businesses to begin welcoming increased numbers of travelers with the spirit of Aloha, while continuing to mitigate COVID-19 community spread.

The Safe Travels Hawai'i program involves the active cooperation and support of all travel industry stakeholders who have developed programs to promote their own safe practices and compliance with restrictions imposed by government during this unprecedented public health emergency.

An increase in travel must be done carefully as we all continue to learn to live safely with COVID-19. Hawai'i expects all travelers to maintain adherence to **Safe Practices**, sector protocols, and individual county guidelines in order to maintain Hawai'i's continued progress in the fight against COVID-19.

Policy and Program Development

The Safe Travels Hawai'i program was developed and implemented through the extensive collaboration of the Governor's Committee on Travel. Facilitated by the Recovery Navigator, the Governor's Committee on Travel included the participation of federal and state leadership, along with Hawai'i-based travel industry partners. From June to July 2020, the Governor's Committee met weekly, and explored various options for the safe increase of travel to and within the State of Hawai'i.

Pre-Travel Testing

A subcommittee focused on the Pre-Travel Testing strategy – convened by Lieutenant Governor Josh Green and comprised of government, health, and travel industry partners – researched options and provided recommendations for a safe increase in Trans-Pacific travel by securing a negative COVID-19 test result prior to departure.

The Pre-Travel Testing subcommittee's efforts focused on identifying reliable COVID-19 tests that could be procured by travelers at their expense, and the results of such tests would be available to the traveler prior to or upon their arrival in Hawai'i.

Using the best information available about disease identification, which continues to evolve along with the testing technology, the subcommittee determined that the most reliable pre-travel test for the immediate launch is the nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) administered by a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certified lab and taken within 72 hours from the final leg of departure.

Testing Partners

Over several months of developing the Pre-Travel Testing policy, the subcommittee decided to accept test results exclusively from trusted testing and travel partners, with as broad coverage as possible on the United States mainland.

The two main drivers for the decision to accept test results from trusted testing and travel partners only were:

- Quality control: By securing test results from qualified entities using proven technology in proper conditions, the State could better ensure that travelers would arrive with true test results.
- <u>Process efficiency</u>: By establishing and vetting in advance the roster of test results that would be processed by the State, the State could better provide a smooth and efficient entry experience for incoming travelers.

With those two objectives in mind, the State actively sought and established trusted testing partners with established brick-and-mortar entities, such as Walgreens and CVS, medical care providers, such as Kaiser Permanente, and online-only testing companies,

such as Vault Health to ensure that there would be wide geographic coverage and testing options for travelers to Hawaii.

Testing Technology

While the current testing technology is evolving into second generation, antigen tests – which are rapid diagnostic point of care tests – their use has not been applied on a large-scale for the purposes of testing of travelers.

The Pre-Travel Testing subcommittee, in consultation with the Hawai'i Department of Health and other healthcare advisers, will monitor the development of these antigen testing technologies as a means of providing more options for travelers to be exempt from the 14-day travel quarantine. Should their efficacy be proven as useful for traveler testing, this recommendation will be made to the governor and the county mayors.

Surveillance Testing

To supplement the Pre-Travel Testing Program, the State is also implementing a strategic surveillance testing program, which would test up to 10-percent of all travelers, randomly and voluntarily. The tests would be done four days post-arrival to Hawai'i and would be at the State's expense. The program would be a 60-day pilot, conducted on all islands, beginning October 19, 2020.

State of Hawai'i Safe Travels Digital Platform

Governor Ige, in consultation with the four county mayors, was able to optimize the delay in the implementation of the pre-travel testing program to support the development of a digital solution for the collection of traveler data. The primary purpose of this data collection, via the *Safe Travels* digital platform, is for health surveillance.

Through the <u>Mandatory State of Hawai'i Travel and Health Form</u>, each traveler reports any present health concerns, and provides information for the enforcement of State quarantine orders. This digital solution is part of the screening process for all travelers.

In addition to the information presently being collected through the digital platform, beginning October 15, 2020, Trans-Pacific travelers will be required to present a negative result on a NAAT test taken within 72 hours from the final leg of departure to be exempt from the 14-day travel quarantine. The State of Hawai'i will only accept test results from trusted testing and travel partners.

14-Day Travel Quarantine

The 14-day travel quarantine was designed with flexibility as a key characteristic.

For example, the 14-day travel quarantine does not apply to federal government employees arriving into the state for official business. This is, in part, to ensure the quick

and unimpeded movement of federal assistance that might be needed; but also to reflect an understanding that federal agencies have and enforce their own protocols and requirements with respect to hygiene and physical distancing.

Additionally, there is the ability for individuals who work for critical infrastructure sectors to apply for an exemption to allow them to break quarantine to work – recognizing that there are sectors of the economy that need flexibility from total quarantine for the proper functioning of the State of Hawai'i. These sectors also have and enforce protocols and requirements with respect to hygiene and physical distancing.

Finally, through exemptions, the 14-day travel quarantine addresses life situations that necessitate travel, such as deaths, medical emergencies, accidents and other similar personal circumstances. When a traveler comes to Hawai'i to address one of these situations, they are able to apply for an exemption, and as long as the institutions that are involved – such as hospitals or hospices – can safely accommodate the traveler. In these cases, exemptions are generally granted.

Travel "Bubbles"

University Bubbles

The State of Hawai'i worked collaboratively with Chaminade, the University of Hawai'i System, and Hawai'i Pacific University on another variant of the 14-day travel quarantine that allowed mainland students to return safely to Hawai'i for the fall semester.

The system involved a combination of testing and monitoring, and group "bubbles" that allowed students to attend official school events only during the first 14 days back in Hawai'i.

Resort "Bubbles"

The resort "bubble" concept is the latest variant on the 14-day travel quarantine. The State of Hawai'i allowed each of the counties to determine whether they wanted to work with local resorts in developing a resort bubble quarantine.

The counties are responsible for making sure a resort has the physical characteristics, hygiene, safety processes and protocols, and trained personnel to allow individuals to quarantine within the resorts' geographic boundaries rather than within the confines of a hotel room. The resort bubble option does contemplate consent by the traveler to be electronically tracked, but offers, in turn, the ability to roam a much larger area, freely.

Health & Safety Principles

Recent global outbreaks of human illness caused by influenza and COVID-19 virus infection have highlighted the importance of monitoring respiratory disease activity among travelers entering Hawai'i as part of national pandemic preparedness and response. As Hawai'i continues screening protocols and launches enhanced testing protocols to increase safe travel to and within the state, three guiding principles remain at the forefront of our efforts:

- 1. Save lives, prevent suffering
- 2. Empower travelers to protect (mālama) themselves and others
- 3. Mitigate risk through layered safety measures

Saving human lives means continuing to ensure capacity in four key public health infrastructure pillars, once travel levels increase:

- <u>Prevention</u>: Test travelers before they enter Hawai'i, and continue *Safe* <u>Practices</u> of self-isolation and quarantine
- <u>Detection</u>: Understand infection rates in our communities and monitor the potential effects of increased travel
- <u>Containment</u>: Investigate, test, isolate, and monitor confirmed or suspected cases and close contacts
- Treatment: Ensure sufficient clinical care, treatment, and symptom management

The State of Hawai'i Department of Health has and will continue to provide public health guidance, as with its **Reopening Hawai'i: Safe Practices**. Additionally, implementing enhanced respiratory disease surveillance at Hawai'i's airports will accomplish the following:

- Improve our state's ability to rapidly detect, characterize, and respond to the infectious disease threat of pandemic influenza, COVID-19, and other emerging diseases.
- Enable public health officials to collect respiratory specimens along with detailed passenger contact information for contact tracing, infection control, and containment activities.

The Safe Travels Hawai'i program and strategy depends largely on personal accountability. If everyone does their part to "Act with Care" and follow **Safe Practices**, Hawai'i will be able to prevent unmanageable spread of COVID-19.

All travelers have a responsibility to protect themselves and others. This program and strategy to safely increase travel explains how Hawai'i continues to empower travelers to embody this responsibility, and to mitigate risk by limiting entry of active COVID-19 infections.

During this process, it is still essential to protect Hawai'i's populations that are at increased risk and kūpuna. Initial COVID-19 data has identified that certain individuals are more vulnerable to the disease. Populations at increased risk are currently defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as:

- Persons 65 years of age and older
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions (particularly not well controlled), including:
 - o People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - People who have serious heart conditions
 - o People who are immunocompromised
 - People with severe obesity
 - People with diabetes
 - People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
 - People with liver disease
- People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility.

Understanding that certain individuals are more vulnerable to this disease, Hawai'i continues engaging **Safe Practices** to adjust and adapt behaviors accordingly. If everyone does their part to protect themselves and others through **Safe Practices**, Hawai'i will emerge stronger and more resilient from the COVID-19 global pandemic.

As Hawai'i's communities learn to live safely with COVID-19, one or more of three possible outcomes, including effective treatments and containment methods, natural "herd immunity," and/or a vaccine, will help inform and guide the pathway to Hawai'i's "New Normal."

Safe Travels Hawai'i Timeline

The Safe Travels Hawai'i timeline is aligned with the 4 phases of the <u>Beyond Recovery:</u> <u>Reopening Hawai'i</u> strategy, and is designed to prevent travel-related reintroduction of COVID-19 transmission in Hawai'i.

Phase 1: Stabilization included the enactment of Hawai'i's mandatory 14-day quarantine for Trans-Pacific travelers on March 26, 2020, so that each community could focus on healing Hawai'i by saving lives and flattening the COVID-19 epidemic curve. The mandatory 14-day quarantine for interisland travelers was enacted on April 1, 2020 to prevent widespread community spread.

Healing Hawaiʻi
Phase 1:
Stabilization

Phase 2: Reopening has focused on rebuilding the kama'āina economy and reconnecting Hawai'i's local activities. On June 16, 2020 the inter-island travel quarantine was lifted. This transition represented a safe, incremental step to help businesses slowly resume operations.

Kamaʻāina Economy
Phase 2:
Reopening

During this transition, a surge in community-related spread of COVID-19 led to a partial reinstatement of the 14-day inter-island travel quarantine on August 11, 2020, along with renewed "Stay at Home, Work from Home" orders for residents of the City and County of Honolulu. As of October 2020, City and County of Honolulu residents are in Tier 1 of their new reopening strategy.

Provided that Hawai'i does not experience an unmanageable increase in COVID-19 cases moving forward, Hawai'i can expect to introduce additional screening measures that provide Trans-Pacific travelers an option to travel to Hawai'i with an exemption from the 14-day quarantine requirement. The key to sustaining Hawai'i's success in limiting COVID-19 spread is in **preventing entry of active COVID-19 infections.**

Hawai'i's phased approach to preventing entry and spread of active COVID-19 infections involves the following steps:

- Provide a pre-travel testing option OR lift the 14-day quarantine within Hawai'i for inter-island passengers with enhanced screening protocols.
- Introduce enhanced testing and screening protocols for Trans-Pacific travelers coming to Hawai'i beginning on October 15, 2020.
 - Travelers who do not complete enhanced testing protocols are subject to the 14-day quarantine.

- Implement a 60-day strategic surveillance testing program pilot on all islands, beginning October 19, 2020.
- Create resort and/or other low-risk travel bubbles with enhanced screening protocols

Phase 3: During Long-Term Recovery Hawai'i will renew and rebuild its economy safely. Defined by sporadic COVID-19 disease activity, this phase is characterized by reopening highest-risk businesses and operations within Hawai'i, and explores the potential to ease travel protocols. Hawai'i's approach will be based on managed risk and available health

Renew & Rebuild
Phase 3:
Long-term Recovery

Stronger Hawai'i

data to ensure the safety of Hawai'i's residents. State leaders will continue consulting with subject matter experts, county mayors, and our community to make informed decisions to safely lift remaining quarantine requirements in phases. Hawai'i will closely monitor COVID-19 activity in other geographies to determine when it is safe to adjust our travel protocols.

Phase 4: Resilience means that we have adjusted to living with COVID-19 through a potential combination of effective treatments and containment methods, natural "herd immunity," and/or vaccines. At this time, travel restrictions can be eased worldwide. Hawai'i will emerge stronger and more resilient with its lessons learned from the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Impacts to Travel

As defined in the <u>Beyond Recovery: Reopening Hawai'i</u> strategy to reopen and reshape Hawai'i's economy, published on May 18, 2020, Hawai'i is in <u>Phase 2</u>: **Reopening.** This phase is informed by the "Act with Care" impact level, which means that Hawai'i still anticipates some new COVID-19 cases, which are manageable, along with improved capacity utilization for testing, hospitals, and contain

Kamaʻāina Economy
Phase 2:
Reopening

improved capacity utilization for testing, hospitals, and contact tracing.

As Hawai'i is learning to live safely with and effectively manage the COVID-19 global pandemic, short-term economic recovery is also essential. To ensure short-term economic recovery can be achieved safely, enhanced screening measures at all of Hawai'i's airports currently includes:

- <u>Mandatory State of Hawai'i Travel and Health Form</u> via the *Safe Travels* digital platform to be completed by each adult
- Temperature checks for all travelers as they exit the plane
- Thermal temperature screening equipment installed at all gates and departure security checkpoints to detect individuals with a body temperature of 100.4 degrees and above at Hawai'i's five airports that accept trans-Pacific flights: Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (HNL), Kahului Airport (OGG), Lihue Airport (LIH), Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport at Keahole (KOA) and Hilo International Airport (ITO)
- Healthcare staff stationed at the airport to conduct additional screening for passengers with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or above and/or other COVID-19 symptoms
- Passenger verification stations where airport representatives verify mobile phone numbers and addresses of all travelers for quarantine and contact tracing purposes
- Order for self-quarantine signed by all inter-island and Trans-Pacific travelers
- Beginning October 15, 2020, counties are empowered to adopt a negative test exception process for travelers subject to the inter-island travel quarantine.
- Beginning October 15, 2020, Trans-Pacific travelers age 5 and over may be exempt from the 14-day travel quarantine if they receive a negative result from a nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours from the final leg of departure. The State of Hawai'i will ONLY accept test results from trusted testing and travel partners.

Traveler Protocols

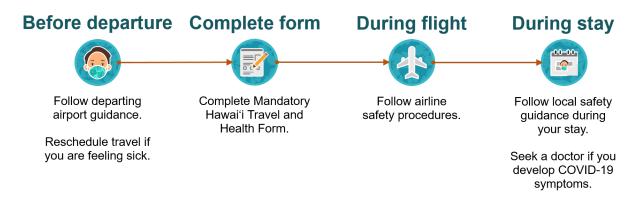
Interisland Travel

A <u>partial inter-island 14-day quarantine</u> was reinstated for the Islands of Kauaʻi, Niʻihau, Maui, Molokaʻi, Kahoʻolawe, Lanaʻi, and Hawaiʻi on August 11, 2020.

As of October 15, 2020, counties are empowered to adopt a negative test exception process for travelers subject to the inter-island travel quarantine. There can also be consideration of lifting the inter-island travel quarantine if and when statewide COVID-19 disease transmission declines to sporadic rates.

In addition to adherence to the 14-day inter-island quarantine, inter-island travel protocols include:

- Prior to departure, all adult inter-island travelers are required to complete a
 <u>Mandatory State of Hawai'i Travel and Health Form</u> via the *Safe Travels* digital
 platform.
- Upon exiting the plane, inter-island travelers are subject to a temperature check.
- Inter-island travelers with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or above and/or other COVID-19 symptoms may be subject to secondary screening by healthcare staff.
- Upon arrival, inter-island travelers will visit passenger verification stations, where airport representatives verify mobile phone numbers and addresses of all travelers, as required for quarantine and contact tracing purposes.
- All inter-island travelers arriving to Islands of Kaua'i, Ni'ihau, Maui, Moloka'i, Kaho'olawe, Lana'i, and Hawai'i are required to sign an Order for Self-Quarantine unless their county adopts a negative test exception process OR until such time as the inter-island 14-day quarantine can be lifted.



Trans-Pacific Travel

Safe Travels Hawai'i: Pre-Travel Testing Program

Beginning October 15, 2020, travelers may receive an exemption from the 14-day quarantine if they receive a negative result from a COVID-19 nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) taken within 72 hours from the final leg of departure. Trans-Pacific travelers may also be subject to a second test as required by individual counties within the State of Hawai'i

Trans-Pacific travelers are responsible for the cost of their own test and, at the present time, the State of Hawai'i <u>will not</u> provide commercial testing at the airport.

Pre-Travel

- Trans-Pacific travelers obtain a negative result from a COVID-19 nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) taken within 72 hours from the final leg of departure.
- The State of Hawai'i <u>will ONLY</u> accept test results from trusted testing and travel partners: AFC Urgent Care, Bartell Drugs, Carbon Health, CityHealth Urgent Care, Color, CVS Health, Discovery Health MD, Kaiser Permanente, Quest Diagnostics, Vault Health and Walgreens (as of October 15, 2020).
- Antigen tests will not be accepted
- All Trans-Pacific travelers age 5 and over who seek exemption from the 14-day quarantine are subject to the pre-travel test requirement
- Trans-Pacific travelers are responsible for the cost of the test.
- Tests must be conducted at a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certified laboratory.
- The State of Hawai'i will not provide commercial testing at the airport.



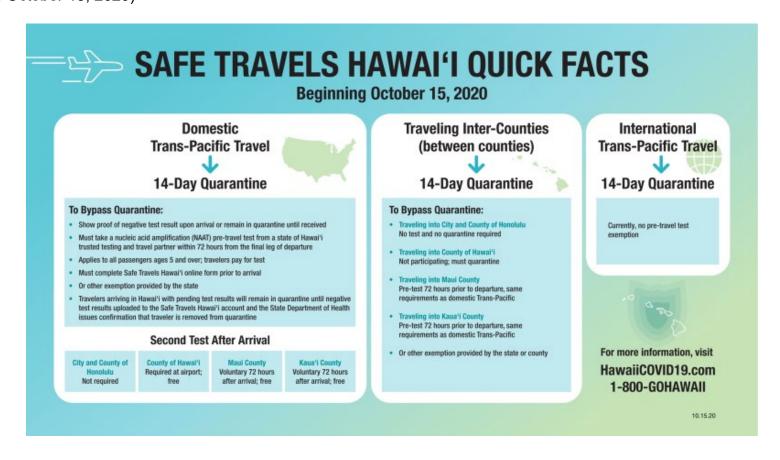
Upon Arrival

- Upon exiting the plane, Trans-Pacific travelers are subject to a temperature check.
- Trans-Pacific travelers with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or above and/or other COVID-19 symptoms may be subject to secondary screening by healthcare staff.
- All Trans-Pacific travelers are required to complete the <u>Mandatory State of</u>
 <u>Hawai'i Travel and Health Form</u> via the *Safe Travels* digital platform, including
 proof of a negative result from a COVID-19 nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT)
 taken within 72 hours from the final leg of departure.
- If test results are not available upon arrival, the Trans-Pacific traveler is subject
 to the 14-day quarantine until the negative test results are reported to the State
 of Hawai'i Department of Health.
- Trans-Pacific travelers who test positive for COVID-19 or opt out of a COVID-19 test are subject to the 14-day travel quarantine.
- Trans-Pacific travelers may be subject to a second test as required by individual counties within the State of Hawai'i.



Appendix

Safe Travels Hawai'i Quick Facts (As of October 15, 2020)



Trusted Testing and Travel Partners





























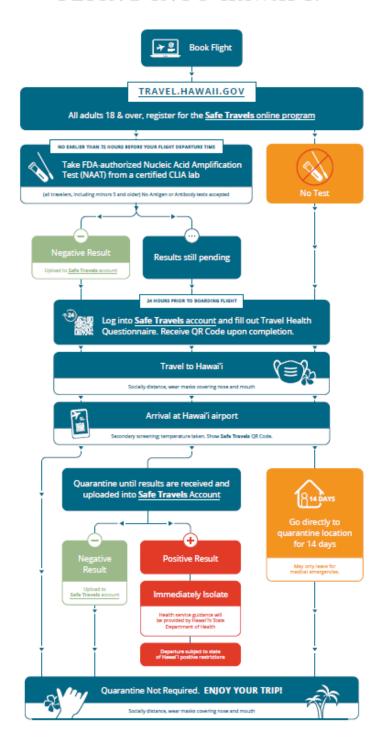






Pre-Travel Test Visitor Journey <u>Download PDF</u>

FLYING INTO HAWAI'I?





State of Hawai'i Travel Information

Hawai'i Mandatory Travel and Health Form: <u>travel.hawaii.gov</u>

Hawai'i Department of Health Travel FAQs: hawaiicovid19.com/travel/#travel-FAQs

Hawai'i Department of Transportation - Airports: hidot.hawaii.gov/coronavirus/

Hawai'i Tourism Authority: hawaiitourismauthority.org/covid-19-updates/

Recovery Navigator - Traveler Info: recoverynavigator.hawaii.gov/travel

Go Hawai'i Visitor Information: gohawaii.com/travel-requirements

To Volunteer Ideas or Resources: kokuaoffers.hawaii.gov

Request COVID-19 Exemptions: <u>travelexemption.hawaii.gov</u>

Reopening Hawai'i Safe Practices



The following guidelines serve as a baseline for safe practices. Industry-specific higher standards of safety and protection, such as those issued by OSHA, NIOSH, CDC, and Industry organizations, shall be observed as well. These guidelines apply to public-facing workplaces as well as to break rooms, mealtimes, and employee locker rooms.

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	STAGE(S)
Hand hygiene	Hand washing and/or 60% hand sanitizer facilities available in work and public settings for use by employees and the public	ALL
Home if ill	Stay home if ill (except to seek care—call first)	ALL
Face mask	Cloth face coverings worn at all times by employees and public when outside the home (except solo exercising), including when in transit other than personal vehicle	ALL
Surface cleaning	Regular cleaning/disinfection of surfaces and objects touched by the public and employees	ALL
Physical distance	Maintain 6 feet distance between ALL individuals to the fullest extent possible	ALL
Protect high risk	Limited in-person visits to nursing homes, hospitals, congregate facilities. Those at higher risk for severe illness advised to minimize time and activities outside the household.	ALL
Gatherings	Limit large gatherings	Stage 1 & 2: <10 Stage 3: <50 indoors <100 outdoors Stage 4: no limit
Isolation	Isolation of cases either in home or in facility, under DOH monitoring & direction	ALL
Quarantine	Quarantine of contacts of cases either in home or facility, under DOH monitoring & direction	ALL
Travelers	Quarantine of travellers for 14 days after arrival, or until departure (whichever is shorter). Applies to visitors and residents.	Stage 1: Interisland and Out-of-State Stage 2-3: Out-of-State Stage 4: TBD

May 2020

Glossary

Bubble: A designated group of people that may congregate under circumstances that could include household members, caregiver, school, or place of residence/hotel/resort.

Community spread/transmission: Community spread or transmission is the spread of an illness within a community, including among individuals who do not know how or where they became infected.

Contact tracing: The process of identification of persons who may have come into contact with an infected person. By tracing the contacts of infected individuals, testing them for infection, treating the infected and tracing their contacts, public health systems can attempt to reduce the number of infections within a population.

Coronavirus/COVID-19: Coronaviruses are a group of viruses that are contractable by both people and animals. Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first discovered in fall 2019.

Epidemic: An epidemic is a disease that affects a large number of people within a community, population, or region.

Flattening the curve: Slowing the spread of disease so that fewer people in a given community need medical attention at any given time. The curve represents the number of active cases over time, so a flatter curve means the number of active cases is no longer increasing.

At increased risk: Populations at increased risk are currently defined by the CDC as: persons 65 years of age and older; people of all ages with underlying medical conditions (particularly not well controlled), including people with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, people who have serious heart conditions, people who are immunocompromised, people with severe obesity, people with diabetes, people with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, and people with liver disease; people who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility.

Hospital surge capacity: Hospital surge capacity refers to the ability of a medical system to evaluate and care for a markedly increased volume of patients – one that challenges or exceeds normal operating capacity. Surge requirements may be based on the number of available hospital beds, personnel, pharmaceuticals, supplies, and/or equipment.

Isolation: Separation and restriction of movement of sick people or those who may have been exposed to an infectious disease. Isolation may occur at home or in healthcare facilities.

Pandemic: A pandemic is a type of epidemic that is spread over multiple countries or continents, with the outbreak of a disease occurring over a wide geographic area and affecting an extremely high percentage of the population.

Quarantine: Isolation of people who may have been exposed to an infectious disease to see if they become sick. The duration of quarantine is normally determined by the incubation period for the disease (i.e. the maximum time after exposure at which an infected person could start showing symptoms). In the case of COVID-19, the incubation period is defined as 14 days.

Screening: Precautionary measures taken at the entrance to public areas or facilities. May include answering a few, brief questions and having one's temperature taken.

Physical distancing: Measures taken to reduce in-person contact in a given community, with the goal of stopping or reducing the spread of an infectious disease. Potential physical distancing measures may include but are not limited to encouraging employees to work from home, canceling public gatherings, maintaining at least six feet of distance between people, and requiring the use of personal protective equipment for individuals leaving their homes.

State of emergency: A local, state, or federal government may declare a state of emergency when its leader determines that a disaster has occurred or may be imminent that is severe enough to warrant Federal or State aid to supplement local resources in preventing or alleviating damages or suffering. Declaring a state of emergency allows the government both to access these additional resources and to waive or suspend state regulations in response to the disaster. Hawai'i declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19 on March 5, 2020.

Testing: Medical laboratory tests are used to determine whether an individual has COVID-19. Testing can occur based on the results of screening, or when a health care provider determines that testing is warranted.

Transmission rate: The rate at which an infectious disease is spreading within a community. This rate represents the number of people each individual with the disease is likely to infect. The rate is dependent both on the infectiousness of the disease and the number of contacts the infected individual is exposed to in person.

Trans-Pacific travel: Travel to Hawai'i by crossing the Pacific Ocean.