

DAF COVID-19 Travel Risk Assessment Tool (T-RAT)

(as of 7 Jul 2021)

The T-RAT is a tool for Commanders to complete the required travel risk assessment to determine the risk of exposure to COVID-19 during planned travel, as well as the need for ROM/testing before and after travel. Risk of COVID-19 exposure during travel should be compared to the risk surrounding the travel starting point.

Commander and Members actions leading up to travel:

1) Traveler and Unit CC will review COVID-19 risk at the planned destination(s), as well as along the travel route:

-- **Official travel:** review [DoD & DAF Installation Travel Restriction Criteria Results](#) to see if destination location(s) is/are and/or installations are listed as meeting the conditions to lift travel restrictions. As needed, follow References b.-d. for guidance on travel waiver requirements when conditions for unrestricted travel are unmet. For OCONUS official travel, member will also review Geographic Combatant Commander (GCC) guidance, applicable Host Nation (HN) procedures, and DoD Electronic Foreign Clearance Guide (<https://www.fcg.pentagon.mil>).

-- **Leave travel:**

--- **OCONUS:** review Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Travel Health Notices](#) (THN) to determine whether destination location(s) is/are experiencing an elevated level of COVID-19 transmission (THN Levels 2-4). Review worldwide map on globalepidemics.org (Reference f.) to assess current COVID-19 risk (cases per 100K per day). Member will also review GCC guidance, applicable HN procedures, and DoD Electronic Foreign Clearance Guide.

---**CONUS:** refer to State (or County/Local) Public Health Department to determine specific state travel requirements

Prior to Travel from USA to Another Country:

1) **Official travel:** if the GCC or HN requires a pre-arrival ROM, the member will follow the applicable duration of ROM at an appropriate domicile and complete pre-travel testing within 1-3 days prior to departure. Pre-travel testing will be completed before leaving home station (reference g). See Reference a. for waiver authority if testing is limited at particular locations. Commanders must caution members on how “leave in route” in conjunction with official travel can make access to pre-travel testing difficult with limited testing capability at APOE sites (reference g). Note: Effective 15 Jul 2021, testing at APOE sites will no longer be available.

a Exceptions to ROM: unless otherwise required by the destination or a more restrictive DoD policy, pre-travel ROM is not required for individuals within three months of full recovery from a laboratory-confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 infection (henceforth referred to as “recovered persons”) or individuals who are 14 days post-completion of COVID-19 in accordance with reference a) and meet all of the CDC criteria for the specific vaccine administered (henceforth referred to as “fully vaccinated persons”).

b Exceptions to testing unless otherwise required by a more restrictive DoD policy or required by the destination:

i Recovered persons are not required to undergo viral testing. These individuals must receive clearance from a healthcare provider or public health official and maintain a copy of the clearance letter in their possession during travel.

ii Fully vaccinated persons are not required to undergo viral testing prior to domestic travel or travel **from** the United States **to** a foreign country. These individuals must maintain proof of vaccination during travel.

2) **Leave travel:** the member will comply with GCC and HN procedures for the areas to which they are traveling. The same exceptions to testing and ROM for official travel apply to leave travel.

3) Prior to Travel Unit CC will review the following items with the traveler:

-- COVID-19 symptoms: Fever or chills, cough or sore throat, shortness of breath, congestion or runny nose, muscle or body aches, headache, fatigue, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.

-- Remind member to not proceed with travel if feeling sick, if they have tested positive for COVID-19 and have not yet met the criteria for discontinuing isolation, or are pending COVID-19 test results. Also, member should not travel if they have had close contact with anyone having or known to have exhibited symptoms of COVID-19, or who tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 14-days unless they are recovered or fully vaccinated persons and remain symptom free.

-- Ensure member understands if they are at increased risk of severe illness of COVID-19 (age and certain medical conditions, for details see [Reference g](#)).

- Ensure member understands how to self-monitor and what actions to take if they develop COVID-19 symptoms or is diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Remind personnel to comply with any DoD, Federal, State, HN, and local restrictions during travel and at travel destination location.
- Unit CC and supervisor will maintain a means of communication with traveler throughout the period of travel.
- Provide member with 'Safe Travel' handout, as well as 'Steps to be Taken During ROM' handout (as applicable). Templates available on [Reference e](#).
- Whether member has completed a COVID-19 immunization series, and, if so, when and if they have proof of vaccination (i.e. CDC vaccination card or other medical documentation).
- Whether the individual will travel to a location with high or increasing COVID-19 transmission as defined by the CDC.

Prior to Travel from Another Country to USA:

- 1) Official travel: if the GCC or HN requires a pre-travel ROM, the member will follow the applicable duration of ROM at an appropriate domicile and complete pre-travel testing within 1-3 days prior to departure and 3-5 days after completion of travel.
 - a Exceptions to ROM: unless otherwise required by the destination or a more restrictive DoD policy, pre- and post-travel ROM is not required for recovered or fully vaccinated persons.
 - b Exceptions to testing: recovered persons not required to undergo viral testing. These individuals must receive clearance from a healthcare provider or public health official and maintain a copy of the clearance letter in their possession during travel
- 2) Leave travel: the member will comply with GCC and HN procedures for the areas to which they are traveling. Beginning 26 Jan 21, personnel will be tested for COVID-19, 1-3 days before departure via commercial or military airlift and maintain proof of the negative test during travel and complete a viral test 3-5 days after completion of travel. The same exceptions to ROM/testing that apply for official travel apply to leave travel.
- 3) Unit CC will review the following items with the traveler:
 - Review State Public Health Department requirements to ensure compliance to States visited
 - COVID-19 symptoms: Fever or chills, cough or sore throat, shortness of breath, congestion or runny nose, muscle or body aches, headache, fatigue, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
 - Remind member to not proceed with travel if feeling sick, if they have tested positive for COVID-19 and have not yet met the criteria for discontinuing isolation, or are pending COVID-19 test results. Also, member should not travel if they have had close contact with anyone having or known to have exhibited symptoms of COVID-19, or who tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 14-days unless they are recovered or fully vaccinated persons.
 - Ensure member understands if they are at increased risk of severe illness of COVID-19 (age and certain medical conditions, for details see [Reference g](#)).
 - Ensure member understands how to self-monitor and what actions to take if they develop COVID-19 symptoms or is diagnosed with COVID-19.
 - Remind personnel to comply with any DoD, Federal, State, HN, and local restrictions during travel.
 - Unit CC and supervisor will maintain a means of communication with traveler throughout the period of travel.
 - Ensure member understands the requirement to complete a viral COVID-19 test 1-3 days prior to travel and maintain proof of the negative test throughout travel, and complete a viral test 3-5 days after completion of travel.
 - Exception to Testing: recovered persons can provide documentation of recovery instead of a negative test results.
 - Whether member has completed a COVID-19 immunization series, and, if so, when and if they have proof of vaccination (i.e. CDC vaccination card or other medical documentation).
 - Whether the individual will travel to a location with high or increasing COVID-19 transmission as defined by the CDC.

Upon Return from Travel or Arrival to Installation: Previous testing and ROM exceptions listed below apply.

Note: IAW CDC recommendations and Reference a., **all individuals** must complete post-arrival testing 3-5 days after return from international travel to the U.S. with the exception of recovered persons. Individuals need to closely adhere to non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs; i.e., 6-ft physical distance, mask wear, hand washing, cover your cough/sneeze) and self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for a full 14-days post-travel.

Unit CC (or designee) will ask traveler the following questions:

- 1) In the last 14-days have you experienced symptoms of COVID-19?

>> If symptomatic: Call medics for telephonic evaluation; if have severe trouble breathing, call 911.

>> If no symptoms: Go to Step 2.

>>> If member has no symptoms and meets the CDC definition for being fully vaccinated: Go to Step 3.

>>>> If member has no symptoms and is within 3 months of full recovery from a laboratory-confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 infection: STOP. Advise member to continue to adhere to CDC recommendations, including wearing a mask, maintaining social distance, and washing/sanitizing hands often. No further action required.

2) Have you had close contact (close contact is defined as someone who was within six feet of a person who has contracted COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset or, for asymptomatic patients, two days prior to test specimen collection until the time the patient is isolated and irrespective of whether the person with COVID-19 was wearing a face mask) with a person known to have COVID-19?

>> If 'yes': 14-day quarantine from the last exposure to the known positive individual. Check with local medics for their guidance on a shortened quarantine period protocol. Note: fully vaccinated personnel are not required to quarantine after exposure or close contact as long as they self-monitor for 14 days and remain symptom free.

>> If 'no': Go to Step 3.

3) Advise member to complete viral test 3-5 days after travel. Go to Step 4.

4) Review itinerary to determine if high risk status changed during travel. In route health risk has changed for locations If COVID-19 risk has changed during travel.

-- OCONUS: Is country covered by a CDC THN (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>)?

>>> If CDC THN Level 2-4: 10-day ROM starting the day they departed OCONUS location. Alternately, if supported by the risk assessment first O-6 in member's chain of command may authorize a 7-day ROM with a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the end of the 7-day ROM. Always follow state and local requirements related to travel.

>>> If CDC THN Level 1: Go to Step 5.

>>> If departure was greater than 14-days ago, and in-transit location(s) was USA: Go to USA.

-- USA:

>>> As applicable, if travel was in an area covered by destination state-level travel restrictions: recommend ROM starting the day they departed the USA location (ROM length as state/locally directed).

>>> Otherwise, Go to Step 5.

5) Did the traveler's mode of travel and/or activities while traveling put them at higher risk for exposure to COVID-19? Utilize the COVID-19 Travel & Activity Risk Matrix (see p3) to determine risk level. While all modes of travel and activities during traveling should be assessed on an individual basis, if the traveler meets two or more criteria in the higher risk category then the recommendation is for ROM or ROM/test.

>> If 'yes': 10-day ROM. Alternately, if supported by the risk assessment, first O-6 in member's chain of command may authorize: 7 day ROM with a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the end of the 7-day ROM. Always follow state and local requirements related to travel.

>> If 'no': Go to Step 6.

6) Was travel within the USA to an area(s) experiencing a significantly different level of COVID-19 transmission than travel origin?

>>> If 'yes' (= higher): consider the need for a 10-day ROM. Alternately, if supported by the risk assessment, first O-6 in member's chain of command may authorize 7-day ROM with a negative COVID-19 test within 48 hours of the end of the 7day ROM. Always follow state and local requirements related to travel.

>>> If 'no': **14-day self-monitor.**

---- NOTE: As needed, consult with local military Public Health for help determining need for post-travel ROM.

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POC: HAF PHEO team @ usaf.pentagon.af-sg.mbx.team-covid-19@mail.mil

REFERENCES:

- (a) DoD FHP Guidance (Supp 20) - Guidance for Personnel Traveling during the COVID-19 Pandemic, 12 Apr 21 (or current version)
- (b) SECDEF Memo, Update to Conditions-based Approach to COVID-19 Personnel Movement and Travel Restrictions, 15 Mar 21
- (c) AF/A1 GENADMIN - Additional Guidance on the Transition to Conditions-Based Phased Approach to COVID-19 Personnel Movement and Travel Restrictions, 30 Jun 20
- (d) SECAF Memo, Travel Restriction Delegations of Authority, 26 Oct 20
- (e) Worldwide COVID-19 risk level dashboard: <https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/>
- (f) CDC - People at Increased Risk for Severe Illness: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extraprecautions/index.html>
- (g) TRANSCOM GENADMIN to the Joint Force Updating COVID-19 Travel Requirements in Response to Force Health Protection Supplement 20
- (h) DAF Combined Addendum to DoD FHP Guidance (Supp 16) Revision 1 and FHP Guidance (Supp 20)

COVID-19 Travel & Activity Risk Matrix

	<u>Air</u>	<u>Bus/Train</u>	<u>Own Vehicle</u>	<u>Gym/Recreation</u>	<u>Gatherings</u>	<u>Dining/Bar</u>	<u>Visits With</u>
Higher Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crowded / full flight - Layover(s) where it is difficult to maintain 6-ft physical distance from others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Any travel where it is difficult to maintain 6-ft physical distance from others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiple stops along the route where it is difficult to maintain 6-ft physical distance from others - Multi-day direct travel where only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High impact, indoor training and close contact sports where it is difficult to maintain 6-ft physical distance from others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indoor gathering, especially when masks are not being worn - Gathering where it is difficult to maintain 6-ft physical distance (wedding, funeral, reunion, party or holiday meal, park, concert, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dining inside, especially where it is difficult to maintain 6-ft physical distance - Consuming alcohol indoors - Karaoke or other group singing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiple households (either altogether in a single gathering or serial stops on one trip)
Elevated Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not crowded flight - Direct flight 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor close contact sports - Playground or park where it is difficult to maintain physical distance and frequently touched surfaces may not be routinely cleaned/sanitized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor gathering with one or two households where the number of people/space make it possible to maintain 6-ft physical distance - Outdoor gathering or covered area with good ventilation and number of people/space make it possible to maintain 6-ft physical distance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dining outside (no mingling with others; mask worn when coming, going, and when using restroom) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single household (not your own) 	
Low Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staycation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staycation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct travel (no stops along the route) - Staycation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor exercise - Home exercise - Camping with members of your own household* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Takeout, drive thru, curbside pickup, or delivery (with contactless payment) - Home-made meals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Celebrating virtually or with members of your own household* 	

Cruise travel = higher risk.

*Your household = anyone who currently lives and shares common spaces in your housing unit (such as your house or apartment).