



April 21st, 2020

New Circular Note - Current COVID-19 Arrival Procedures for Travelers to the US

The Secretary presents his compliments to their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Mission and wishes to bring to their attention information concerning the current COVID-19 screening procedures in place at airports in the United States and their applicability to members of foreign missions. In order to help prevent the spread of travel-related cases of coronavirus in the United States, as of March 16, 2020, passengers arriving in the United States by air from all restricted countries are required to travel through the following 13 airports:

- Boston-Logan International Airport (BOS), Massachusetts;
- Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD), Illinois;
- Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), Texas;
- Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW), Michigan;
- Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (HNL), Hawaii;
- Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL), Georgia;
- John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK), New York;
- Los Angeles International Airport, (LAX), California;
- Miami International Airport (MIA), Florida;
- Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR), New Jersey;
- San Francisco International Airport (SFO), California;
- Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), Washington; and
- Washington-Dulles International Airport (IAD), Virginia.

Upon arrival and after passing through immigration, passengers will continue to enhanced entry screening where they will be queried about their medical history, current condition, and asked for contact information to be passed on to local health authorities. In some cases, entry screening may include thermal temperature checks; however, passengers are not currently being tested for

COVID-19 at U.S. points of entry. Following such screening, passengers will then be given written guidance about COVID-19 and directed to their destination. In accordance with Centers for Disease Prevention & Control (CDC) guidance, all passengers will be asked to immediately home-quarantine for 14 days upon reaching their final destination.

The procedures detailed above apply to all arriving passengers from restricted countries, including but not limited to foreign mission members. The CDC guidance for self-quarantine applies more broadly to all arriving international passengers at all U.S. points of entry. Additional information concerning these matters is available at <https://www.dhs.gov/coronavirus/protecting-air-travelers-and-american-public> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/Itravelers/after-travel-precautions.html>.

Inquiries concerning the impacts of COVID-19 and the associated responsive effort on the operation of foreign missions in the United States should be transmitted by electronic mail to OFM-EmergencyMgt@state.gov. Further, a compilation of circular diplomatic notes and notices released by OFM concerning COVID-19 is available at <https://www.state.gov/circular-notes-and-notices-covid-19>.

The best way to reach OFM Houston is by email to our individual Outlook accounts, or by sending emails to OFMHouston@state.gov. For DMV, Tax and other services, continue to use eGov. For any questions or other issues, you can call Bob Hopkins daily at the OFM Houston office during working hours at (713) 272-2873, or at home with any after-hours emergencies at (281) 240-9612.

