Travel during the pandemic increases the risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19. Therefore, the CDPH and the CDC recommend delaying travel until persons are fully vaccinated. If domestic or international travel is essential or unavoidable, review these important safety guidelines to minimize viral exposure. Note that travel arrangements must be approved by the host department.

**Travel or no travel?**
- Review USC’s Travel Guidance for approval requirements.
- All non-essential USC business travel remains suspended until further notice.
  - Keck Medicine of USC and Keck School of Medicine implemented a temporary ban on all international and domestic business trips.
- Determine if:
  - The destination has requirements or restrictions for travelers (e.g., quarantine).
  - You or someone in your household is at increased risk of getting severe illness from COVID-19.
  - Your itinerary includes traveling by bus, train, or air which might compromise your physical distancing of six (6) feet.
  - If personal travel is unavoidable, faculty and staff are encouraged to register their personal itineraries at the USC Travel & Expense Portal by clicking on the Go to Duty of Care page for registration instructions. This will enable emergency messages from the university to reach faculty/staff in the event of an unanticipated travel disruption.
- Essential travel, which includes travel for some research, can be approved by the school/department’s dean or dean designee.
- Consult the LACDPH Travel Advisory for up-to-date travel information.

**Pre-travel planning**
- Check travel restrictions before planning/arranging the trip.
- Obtain travel approval from the host department.
- Pack food and water in case restaurants and stores are closed or inaccessible.
- Consider getting tested one to three days before your travel date. Keep a copy of test results with you during travel.
- If you take medications, bring enough to last for the entire trip.
- If you are fully vaccinated with an FDA-authorized vaccine or a vaccine authorized for emergency use by the World Health Organization:
  - Continue to follow the CDC’s recommendations for traveling safely and get tested three to five days after travel.
  - You DO NOT need to get tested before leaving the United States unless your destination requires it.
  - You DO NOT need to self-quarantine after arriving in the United States.
**While traveling**

- Wear a mask to keep nose and mouth covered when in public settings.
- Bring extra supplies, such as masks, hand sanitizer, and wipes.
- Avoid close contact, maintain physical distancing of six feet or more, and wear a mask.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol).
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Minimize touching common surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, handrails).

**Post-travel**

- It is recommended that:
  - Non-essential, unvaccinated travelers get tested three to five days upon arrival into California and stay home and self-quarantine for a full seven days after travel, even if their test is negative.
  - Non-essential, unvaccinated travelers who don’t get tested stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- Travelers who are fully vaccinated (i.e., two weeks have passed after their second dose for Pfizer or Moderna, or after their single dose of Johnson and Johnson) are at lower risk and can now travel and will not be required to test or quarantine upon their arrival in Los Angeles County unless they have COVID-19 symptoms.
- Continue to monitor your health: Look for symptoms of COVID-19.
- Avoid being around people who are at increased risk for severe illness.
- Avoid close contact, maintain physical distancing of six feet or more, and wear a mask.

**Resources**

- CDC Guidelines for Using Transportation
- CDC Guidelines for Using Rideshare
- CDC Use of Masks
- LACDPH Travel Advisory