

Mayo Clinic Travel Guidance: COVID-19

Mayo Clinic is committed to take care of staff and patients in the event of a broadening of the COVID-19 outbreak. Mayo has updated its travel and exposure guidance in light of this important public health issue.

There has been increase in community transmission in the U.S. and abroad. In the coming days, more reported positive cases of COVID-19 are expected. This is not unexpected, given the change in testing criteria and test availability.

New travel guidance effective immediately

In consultation with key internal groups, including Infection Prevention and Control, Occupational Health Services, Patient Safety, Emergency Management, Human Resources, and key physicians, Mayo Clinic leaders have updated travel guidance to restrict non-essential domestic and international business travel.

Mayo Clinic will restrict nonessential business travel to all locations (international and domestic), including travel between Mayo Clinic locations. Car travel (among health system facilities, for example) will continue to be an option for business needs.

Mayo Clinic has been following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines and has now decided to take extra precautions to protect you and patients. [CDC guidance](#) currently advises against nonessential travel to [affected areas](#) described as having widespread or sustained community transmission.

If your role includes business travel, please postpone or decline those commitments at this time. If you have previously booked travel, Mayo recommends canceling trips that begin through April 30.

Mayo also is discouraging recruiting trips for prospective hires, and asks staff to work with vendors to suspend travel to Mayo Clinic unless critical for business operations.

For personal travel, Mayo asks that you take precautions to minimize the risk of exposure. If there is suspected or confirmed exposure, it is critical that you self-isolate to avoid spread.

Please connect with your supervisor to discuss your work. Each staff member's situation is unique.

Suspend hosting large gatherings

Mayo leaders are asking staff to, within the next week, begin suspending the hosting of large group gatherings with participants from outside Mayo Clinic, including medical conferences and Continuing Professional Development events. Continuous Professional Development will cancel upcoming conferences.

For now, it is recommended that internal large meetings, such as grand rounds, All-Supervisors and All-Staff Meetings, be moved to a streamed/videoconference option.

Mayo's response plans focus on prevention, so please be assured that it is safe to come to work. Mayo also is coordinating with local and national partners to meet the needs of the larger population.

Staff advised to self-monitor for fever/respiratory symptoms

All staff should self-monitor for symptoms that could be associated with viral respiratory infections, including Influenza and COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath) before coming to work each day. And staff should refrain from coming to work when ill.

If you have traveled to a high-risk location (CDC-restricted travel or area of high transmission) or have been in contact with a person with COVID-19, contact Occupational Health Services as soon as possible for further direction. Staff with risk of exposure and symptoms should refrain from coming working on campus until evaluated and cleared by Occupational Health Services.

The main symptoms associated with COVID-19 are fever, cough and shortness of breath.

Occupational Health Services will continue to assess those who are symptomatic or have been exposed to COVID-19 on an individual basis to determine safety prior to return to work.

Watch for updates

Your health and your family's health are important to Mayo leaders, and this has driven these preventive plans. They thank you for your continued dedication to

patients and the institution as Mayo continues to prepare and adjust to this evolving situation.

Mayo will look to lift these restrictions as soon as it is prudent to do so.