



COVID-19 FOR COPS TRAVEL TO MASSACHUSETTS

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The Governor has issued COVID-19 Order No. 45 regarding travel to Massachusetts.

Beginning on August 1, 2020, entering the state requires completion of a travel form and either a negative COVID-19 test or a 14-day quarantine.

Complete travel form. All individuals entering Massachusetts— over age 18 or as an unaccompanied minor — must complete the form at <https://www.mass.gov/forms/massachusetts-travel-form>.

Travelers entering Massachusetts must provide proof of a negative test or quarantine. This applies to residents, non-residents, and international travelers.

- **The negative test¹ must be based on a specimen taken no longer than 72 hours prior to arrival.**
 - The traveler must produce proof of the negative test on request.
 - Children, 10 years and younger, who are traveling with an adult from their household do not need to be tested.
- **Quarantine for 14 days upon arrival (or for the duration of their stay if less than 14 days); or**
- **Quarantine until they get a negative test result in Massachusetts.**

Exemptions. The following travelers do not have to complete the form or quarantine or provide negative test results:

- **From lower-risk states.** Individuals traveling from a COVID-19 lower-risk state are exempt. This means the person was present in a lower-risk state for more than a “transitory period of time” within the last 14 days. Lower-risk states are:
 - Connecticut
 - Hawaii
 - Maine
 - New Hampshire
 - New Jersey
 - New York
 - Rhode Island
 - Vermont

¹ A negative result from an antigen test must be confirmed by a negative result from an FDA EUA-approved molecular (PCR) SARS-CoV2 test, on a sample obtained 72 hours or less prior to arrival in Massachusetts. Serology tests will not be accepted.

- **Transitory travel.** People who are passing through Massachusetts; or connecting to their airplane, bus, or train here; or stopping at a highway rest area are exempt. This exemption only covers a traveler for as long as it takes to make an airplane, bus, or train connection, or use travel services at a highway rest area.
- **Commuting to work or school.** People who regularly commute, at least weekly, to a fixed workplace or school either inside or outside Massachusetts are exempt. This exemption only covers coming and going from a person's residence to their workplace or school. Workers or students who travel to any place out-of-state for personal or leisure reasons are not covered.
- **Medical treatment.** Patients who travel to Massachusetts to seek or receive medical care along with persons accompanying them and providing needed support are exempt.
- **Military personnel.** Persons who travel to Massachusetts if ordered or directed by a federal or state military authority are exempt.
- **Infrastructure services.** Workers who commute to perform critical infrastructure functions as specified by the Federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency are exempt. Workers who travel to or from Massachusetts for personal or leisure reasons are not exempt.

Failure to submit a travel form when required or to comply with the quarantine requirement may result in a \$500 civil fine. Each violation is considered a separate fine and filed in the district court pursuant to the procedure in 277, § 70C.

For enforcement, individuals are directed to contact the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) or a local Board of Health (BOH).

DPH shall enforce this Order "with the assistance of State or municipal police." While a local BOH may investigate, it may only enforce the Order when requested by DPH.²

Quarantine requirements.

- Travelers, along with their travel party, must separate from all other people for 14 days.
- Travelers must not be in public or otherwise leave their identified quarters.
- The living quarters must have a separate bathroom facility for each individual or family group. Access to a sink with soap, water, and paper towels is necessary. Cleaning supplies (e.g. household cleaning wipes, bleach) must be available in the bathroom.
- Travelers must have a way to self-quarantine from other household members if a fever or other symptoms develop, in a separate room(s) with a door.
- During the quarantine period, no one else should be in the living quarters other than those in the Travel Party, including hotel staff or delivery persons.
- Food must be delivered to the living quarters.
- Travelers must have a sufficient supply of face masks or coverings to wear and comply with the Massachusetts' mask order.
- Travelers may not leave their living quarters except for urgent medical care.

² COVID-19 Order No. 45, § 5 Implementing Guidance and Enforcement.

- If no one in the Travel Party develops symptoms (fever, cough, breathing difficulty, body aches, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.), then normal activities may begin after 14 days.

Massachusetts employers are strongly discouraged from requiring or allowing business-related travel to risky states. Employers who permit travel to non-lower-risk states must ensure employees comply with quarantine or testing obligations. Employers are also urged to strongly discourage their employees from taking leisure travel to non-lower-risk destinations.