



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCES CENTRAL COMMAND (USAFCENT)
379TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING

21 March 22

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PERSONNEL VISITING, TRAVELING TO, OR ASSIGNED TO
AL UDEID AIR BASE (AUAB), QATAR

FROM: 379 AEW/CC

SUBJECT: AUAB Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance

References:

- (a) AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 10-2519 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES AND INCIDENTS OF PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS (10 DECEMBER 2019)
- (b) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 20) REVISION 1 DOD GUIDANCE FOR PERSONNEL TRAVEL DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC 11 JAN 2022
- (c) USCENTCOM COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT OPERATIONS EXORD, 112055ZFEB21, MOD 001, 071353APR21, & MOD 002, 132139OCT21
- (d) USAFCENT/A1 OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM "LEAVE, REST AND RECUPERATION, SPECIAL PASS AND TEMPORARY DUTY" (15 NOV 2021)
- (e) 9 AF (AFCENT)/CC INSTRUCTION, "PASSENGER ROUTING INSTRUCTION, APPENDIX D TO SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION TO JOPES VOL III, ENCLOSURE C AND UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND SUPPLEMENT" (3 NOV 2021)
- (f) MEMORANDUM OF INSTRUCTION FOR CONTRACTOR MOVEMENT IN THE USCENTCOM AOR FOR USAFCENT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (30 JUNE 2020)
- (g) USD A&S MEMORANDUM, "SPACE-AVAILABLE TRAVEL PROGRAM LIMITATIONS DUE TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019" (15 MAR 21)
- (h) SECAF MEMORANDUM, "SPACE-A TRAVEL PROGRAM DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY REISSUANCE" (16 APR 2021)
- (i) DOD INSTRUCTION 4515.13 AIR TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY 22 JAN 2016
- (j) SECDEF MEMORANDUM, "GUIDANCE FOR COMMANDER'S RISK BASED RESPONSES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HEALTH PROTECTION CONDITION FRAMEWORK DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019" (29 APR 2021)
- (k) SECAF MEMORANDUM, "DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE (DAF) GUIDANCE FOR COMMANDER'S RISK-BASED RESPONSES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HEALTH PROTECTION CONDITION FRAMEWORK DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC" (19 MAY 2021)
- (l) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 18) DOD GUIDANCE FOR PROTECTING ALL PERSONNEL IN DOD WORKPLACES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC (17 MAR 2021)
- (m) DEPSECDEF MEMORANDUM, "UPDATED MASK GUIDANCE FOR ALL DOD INSTALLATIONS AND OTHER FACILITIES" (28 JUL 2021)
- (n) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 17) REVISION 1 – DOD GUIDANCE FOR THE USE OF MASKS, PERSONAL PROTECTIVE

- EQUIPMENT, AND NON-PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTIONS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC (22 JUN 2021)
- (o) DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE MEMORANDUM, "GUIDANCE ON USE OF MASKS" (16 FEB 21)
 - (p) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 22)-DOD GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE AND SCREENING TESTING (21 JUL 2021)
 - (q) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 23) REVISION 2 – DOD GUIDANCE FOR CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 VACCINATION ATTESTATION, SCREENING TESTING, AND VACCINATION VERIFICATION (29 OCT 21)
 - (r) CDC NOTICE AND AMENDED ORDER - REQUIREMENTS FOR NEGATIVE PRE-DEPARTURE COVID-19 TEST RESULT OR DOCUMENTATION OF RECOVERY FROM COVID-19 FOR ALL AIRLINE OR OTHER AIRCRAFT PASSENGERS ARRIVING INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY (6 DEC 21)
 - (s) USCENTCOM J3 NIGHT ORDERS FOR 09 DEC 21, 100032DEC21
 - (t) USD(P&R) MEMORANDUM, UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR MASK AND SCREEING TESTING FOR ALL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS AND OTHER FACILITIES (1 MAR 2022)
 - (u) 379 AEW/CC MEMORANDUM, HOST NATION COVID-19 TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS (21 MAR 2022)
 - (v) IFAD/GHQ/8195/1/2593, EXEMPTION FROM EHTEHAZ REQUIREMENTS FOR US FORCES AND CONTRACTORS (30 MAY 2021)

I. Introduction. AUAB's priorities during the COVID-19 global pandemic are to **Protect the Force** and **Prevent the Spread** in order to **Sustain the Mission**. The dynamic nature of the global pandemic will continue to drive a steady stream of changes to guidance, policies, and procedures. This memo aligns AUAB with current guidance. If it does not answer your questions, please contact the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Health Emergency Officer (379 AEW/PHEO) (DSN 318-455-5215). Thank you for your teamwork, patience, and selfless attitudes.

II. Public Health Emergency Declaration.

1. In order to continue current efforts to support Qatar and protect AUAB from the effects of COVID-19, I am renewing the 20 March 2020 public health emergency declaration issued by my predecessor. This decision is based on the recommendations of my Public Health Emergency Officer (PHEO), in consideration of currently available data about COVID-19 in Qatar as well as worldwide, and is in accordance with reference (a). This declaration automatically terminates 90 days from the date of this memorandum unless it is renewed or terminated sooner by myself or a senior commander.
2. The installation PHEO and medical personnel are directed to continue their actions to identify, confirm, and control this public health emergency utilizing all necessary means outlined in reference (a). The PHEO may issue additional guidance that affects installation personnel and property and other individuals working, residing, or visiting US-operated portions of AUAB (e.g., restricting movement or implementing quarantine and isolation for select individuals).
3. The installation commander and PHEO will coordinate activities and share information with host nation officials responsible for public health and public safety to ensure our response is appropriate. Shared information may include personally identifiable health information only to the extent necessary to protect public health and safety.

4. Any person, military or civilian, who refuses to obey or otherwise violates an order during this declared public health emergency will be detained. Violators not subject to military law may be removed from the installation and delivered to host nation authorities. Moreover, a violation of the procedures, protocols, and/or orders issued in conjunction with this public health emergency may be charged as a crime under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or pursuant to law (42 U.S.C. § 271; 50 U.S.C. § 797; 18 U.S.C. § 1382; 42 C.F.R. Parts 70-71) and subject to punishment of a fine or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

III. Key Definitions.

1. For purposes of this guidance:

a. *Qatari-Current*:¹ As defined by the Ministry of Public Health of the State of Qatar, personnel who are within 9 months (274 days) from the 14th day after receiving an additional (2nd and beyond) Moderna, Pfizer, or AstraZenica COVID-19 vaccine dose, **OR** within 9 months (274 days) from the 14th day after receiving an initial Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine dose, **OR** within 9 months from the 7th day after receiving an additional Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine dose.

b. *Fully-Vaccinated*: As defined by the U.S. CDC and DoD, personnel who are 2 weeks or more beyond the completion of a primary COVID-19 vaccine series (e.g., 2 doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or 1 dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine).

c. *Recovered*: As defined by the Ministry of Public Health of the State of Qatar, personnel who received a positive COVID-19 lab result within the last nine months (within 274 days from the day of the positive COVID-19 lab result).

d. *Unvaccinated/Non-Immune*: Personnel who do not meet the above definitions for *Qatari-Current*, *Fully-Vaccinated*, or *Recovered*.

2. Restrictions applicable to personnel based upon their vaccination status are outlined below. Qatari-Current or Fully-Vaccinated personnel not in possession of evidence of vaccination (CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Card or other official military or civilian documentation), or who were vaccinated with a vaccine other than those listed above, must contact the AUAB Public Health Office at DSN 455-5378/5215 to receive verification of vaccination status. Otherwise, such personnel will be treated as Unvaccinated/Non-Immune upon arrival to and while resident on or assigned to AUAB. Recovered personnel must maintain a hard copy of their positive COVID-19 lab result as well as a copy of a recovery letter provided by their medical provider, or will be treated as Unvaccinated/Non-Immune upon arrival to and while resident on or assigned to AUAB.

IV. Travel to AUAB

1. In accordance with reference (e), commercial travel is the last resort for inter-theater transportation. Commercial travel requests must codify critical mission impact and the inability to utilize government contracted airlift against a deployment/re-deployment timeline. For Intra-Theater TDY travel, military air is to be used to the maximum extent possible. However, in cases where military air cannot meet mission requirements, Unit Commanders will provide a signed Travel Authorization Letter with a Mission Impact Statement authorizing the member to procure commercial tickets through the LGRDAP (Passenger Travel

¹ The State of Qatar Ministry of Public Health refers to this state as “fully-vaccinated.” The term “Qatari-Current” is used to distinguish this state from the U.S. CDC/DoD definition of fully-vaccinated, which is reproduced in paragraph 1.b. above.

Section). For further information on requests and approval processes for commercial travel, review reference (e), available on the Air Force Reporting Instructions Tool (AFRIT).²

2. IAW reference (a), and (b), “Deploying Service members and DoD civilian employees will follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) travel guidelines for fully vaccinated individuals.” These travel guidelines are available on the CDC website.³

3. State of Qatar ***Pre-Arrival*** Requirements⁴: Qatari-Current, Fully-Vaccinated, Recovered, and Unvaccinated /Non-Immune personnel must submit a negative pre-travel PCR lab result obtained no more than 48 hours before the time of departure from the country of origin. EXCEPTION: Recovered personnel who are within 90 days from a positive COVID-19 PCR lab result may instead submit their positive COVID-19 PCR lab result and a COVID-19 recovery letter from a healthcare provider in place of a negative PCR lab result.

4. State of Qatar Post-Arrival Requirements:

a. Arriving from RED Countries: Qatari-Current and Recovered personnel will be restricted to AUAB for their first 24 hours in Qatar and are required to complete a COVID-19 test during that period in order to be cleared for off-base travel. Unvaccinated/Non-Immune personnel will be restricted to AUAB for their first 5 days in Qatar and must complete a COVID-19 test during that period in order to be cleared for off-base travel. ***Fully-Vaccinated personnel who are not also Qatari-Current or Recovered per the definitions above will be subject to the requirements for Unvaccinated/Non-Immune personnel.***

b. Arriving from Other Countries: Qatari-Current and Recovered personnel will not be restricted to AUAB and are not required to complete a COVID-19 test to be cleared for off-base travel. Unvaccinated/Non-Immune personnel will be restricted to AUAB for their first 5 days in Qatar and must complete a COVID-19 test during that period in order to be cleared for off-base travel. ***Fully-Vaccinated personnel who are not also Qatari-Current or Recovered per the definitions above will be subject to the requirements for Unvaccinated/Non-Immune personnel.***

5. All personnel must adhere to these requirements, whether newly arrived or returning, and whether arriving via military, military charter, or commercial air. All newly-arrived personnel must submit a completed copy of reference (u) to the AUAB DBIDS office in order to be able to register their CAC in DBIDS. All newly-arrived personnel who are restricted to AUAB on arrival and required to complete a post-arrival COVID-19 test will, upon completion of the restriction period, present both a completed copy of reference (u) and their negative COVID-19 test result to the AUAB DBIDS office in order to be able to register their CAC in DBIDS. Upon registering their CAC in DBIDS, newly-arrived personnel will be eligible for off-base travel, subject to any limitations imposed by the current AUAB COVID-19 off-base travel status, as shown on the AF Connect mobile app and the AUAB Single Source of Truth SharePoint site.

6. Service members and DoD civilian employees who are not Qatari-Current or Fully-Vaccinated per the above definitions are subject to additional DoD COVID-19 travel testing and Restriction of Movement requirements in accordance with reference (b). Also, contract personnel not authorized housing on AUAB are subject to additional State of Qatar travel requirements. Further, personnel with Qatari residency permits and off-base residences may be subject to different State of Qatar travel requirements. Such personnel must contact the AUAB Public Health office or PHEO at 455-5378/5215 for further guidance on entry procedures.

² <https://aef.cloud.disa.mil/AFRIT/Afrit.aspx>

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>.

⁴ See <https://covid19.moph.gov.qa/EN/travel-and-return-policy/Pages/default.aspx> for the list of RED countries

7. Transient Personnel (non-aircrew). Personnel travelling through AUAB should expect to go to Transient Lodging while awaiting their next flight, regardless of vaccination status. This includes members who are transiting AUAB for re-deployment or conducting inter/intra-theater travel.

V. Travel to CONUS from Qatar.

1. If traveling to CONUS through AUAB, pursuant to reference (b), personnel will undergo a COVID-19 test within 3 days of departure for official travel, and within 1 day of departure for unofficial travel.
2. If traveling to CONUS through a commercial airport within Qatar, pursuant to reference (r), personnel will undergo a COVID-19 test within 1 day of departure for official or unofficial travel.

VI. Off-Base Travel.

1. Off-base travel during the COVID-19 pandemic while assigned to/transiting AUAB is governed by three states – *open*, *limited*, or *closed*. Regardless of the state of off-base travel, personnel will comply with public health measures instituted by the State of Qatar. **Off-base travel is currently OPEN.** Updates to the off-base travel status will be reflected in this memorandum, as well as on the AF Connect mobile app and the AUAB Single Source of Truth SharePoint site. All personnel seeking to travel off-base must register their CAC with the AUAB DBIDS office and be in possession of a copy of the Ehteraz App exemption memo (reference (v)) and CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Card.

a. During an *open* state, the threat posed by the pandemic is minimal. Personnel meeting the criteria established for Qatari-Current or Fully-Vaccinated as defined above may travel off-base without additional requirements imposed beyond those detailed in AUAB Instruction (AUABI) 10-6008, Off-Base Travel, dated 20 Feb 19 (summarized in the “AUAB Rules”) and unit operating procedures. Personnel meeting the criteria established for Unvaccinated/Non-Immune as defined above are not permitted travel off-base for other than mission-essential purposes and require an exception to policy granted by an authorized official in their chain of command. Personnel meeting the criteria established for Recovered as defined above who also meet the criteria established for Qatari-Current or Fully-Vaccinated may travel off-base to the same extent as Qatari-Current or Fully-Vaccinated personnel. Otherwise, they are not permitted travel off-base for other than mission-essential purposes and require an exception to policy granted by an authorized official in their chain of command. Authorized officials may submit mission critical exception approvals to 379 ESFS/OBTR (379esfs.obtr@auab.afcent.af.mil) for tracking purposes. Acceptable reasons for personnel to travel are generally limited to receiving medical care, transit to/from designated off-base locations, or for performing specific mission-essential functions.

b. During a *limited* state, the threat posed by the pandemic to both AUAB and our Qatari hosts is moderate, necessitating heightened restrictions. Personnel meeting the criteria established for Qatari-Current as defined above may travel off-base without additional requirements imposed beyond those detailed in AUAB Instruction (AUABI) 10-6008, Off-Base Travel, dated 20 Feb 19 (summarized in the “AUAB Rules”) and unit operating procedures. Personnel meeting the criteria established for Fully-Vaccinated or Unvaccinated/Non-Immune as defined above are not permitted travel off-base for other than mission-essential purposes and require an exception to policy granted by an authorized official in their chain of command. Personnel meeting the criteria established for Recovered as defined above who also meet the criteria established for Qatari-Current may travel off-base to the same extent as Qatari-Current personnel. Otherwise, they are not permitted travel off-base for other than mission-essential purposes and require an exception to policy granted by an authorized official in their chain of command. Authorized officials may submit mission critical exception approvals to 379 ESFS/OBTR (379esfs.obtr@auab.afcent.af.mil) for tracking purposes. Acceptable reasons for

personnel to travel are generally limited to receiving medical care, transit to/from designated off-base locations, or for performing specific mission essential functions.

c. During a *closed* state, the threat posed by the pandemic to both AUAB and our Qatari hosts is significant, necessitating extreme constraints. Travel on- or off-base is generally prohibited and, when necessary for mission critical reasons, requires an exception to policy granted by the 379 AEW/CC. Authorized officials in the chain of command will submit mission critical exception requests to the 379 AEW/DS who will route for approval/disapproval. 379 AEW/DS will route approved exceptions to 379 ESFS/OBTR for action at the entry control point and tracking purposes.

2. For any questions regarding these processes contact 379 AEW/DS (DSN 318-455-5531). Command-Sponsored Program (CSP) families are permitted access to AUAB in all states and must abide by rules predicated on their status as Qatari-Current, Fully-Vaccinated, Recovered, or Unvaccinated/Non-Immune.

VII. Space-A Travel

1. IAW references (g) and (h), travel exceptions may only be granted for compelling cases where travel is either (1) necessary for humanitarian purposes, or (2) warranted due to extreme hardship. Each individual exception must be accomplished on a case-by-case basis, and shall be documented in writing and signed by the authority granting the waiver. The written waiver documentation must include a determination of whether travel is necessary for humanitarian reasons or warranted due to hardship.

2. The following categories remain eligible to seek Space-A travel pursuant to Table 3 of reference (i): Category I travelers (items 1-6); Category IV travelers (only items 26 and 27); and Category VI travelers (only items 42 and 46).

VIII. Force Health Protection Measures

1. These measures align AUAB with higher headquarters guidance (references (a), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), and (t)). Based on current local trends and in accordance with authorities in references (j) and (k), AUAB is operating in **Health Protection Condition (HPCON) Alpha**.

2. In accordance with reference (t), DoD personnel and visitors are only required to wear masks in indoor settings on DoD installations and facilities when the CDC COVID-19 Community Level in the area is HIGH. **Currently, the CDC COVID-19 Community Level at AUAB is LOW**. Therefore, personnel are not required to wear masks covering their nose and mouth in indoor settings on AUAB, except when:

a. Present in a medical facility (e.g. 379th Expeditionary Medical Group (379 EMDG) patient/visitor areas).

b. Present in indoor transportation hubs (e.g. 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron (8 EAMS) passenger terminal facilities, Joint Qatari/Host Nation Coordination Center/PERSCO Combined Customs & Immigration Center (CCIC) facilities).

c. Identified by AUAB Public Health as a COVID-19 positive case or a close contact of a COVID-19 positive case and instructed to wear a mask as a condition of any associated Restriction of Movement.

3. Commanders with responsibility for apportioned lodging space in dormitories on AUAB will, in coordination with the AUAB Public Health office, maintain the capacity to isolate personnel resident on AUAB who have tested positive for COVID-19 and to quarantine those resident on AUAB who Public Health has identified as close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases. Unit commanders will assume full

responsibility for the life support of personnel under their command who have been ordered into isolation as positive COVID-19 cases or into quarantine as close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases.

4. All units and personnel assigned to and/or operating on AUAB are required to notify the Public Health office by calling DSN 455-5378 whenever a person in their unit is directed to quarantine or isolate by medical authorities other than 379 EMDG (i.e. off-base medical providers, other services, etc.).

5. Occupancy at all indoor and outdoor MWR operations (to include, but not limited to, gyms, community activity center, etc.), AAFES establishments, and dining facilities can return to 100%.

6. We continue to adjust our approach based on mission partner inputs, experience, and data. We also continue to engineer better solutions to reduce the persistent friction of enforcement.

7. Failure to comply with these force health protection measures is subject to administrative or punitive action under Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice. The installation PHEO reviewed and concurs with the force health protection measures as written.

GERALD A. DONOHUE
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander