



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

28 Dec 21

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 16) REVISION 1 DOD GUIDANCE FOR DEPLOYMENT AND REDEPLOYMENT OF INDIVIDUALS AND UNITS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC 04 MAY 2021
 - (c) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 20) DOD GUIDANCE FOR PERSONNEL TRAVEL DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC 20 APR 2021
 - (d) SECAF MEMORANDUM, "DAF COMBINED ADDENDUM TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 16) REVISION 1 – DEPLOYMENT AND REDEPLOYMENT OF INDIVIDUALS AND UNITS DURING THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC AND FHPG (SUPPLEMENT 20) – GUIDANCE FOR PERSONNEL TRAVELING DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC" (6 JUL 2021)
 - (e) USCENTCOM COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT OPERATIONS EXORD, 112055ZFEB21, MOD 001, 071353APR21, & MOD 002, 132139OCT21
 - (f) USAFCENT/A1 OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM "LEAVE, REST AND RECUPERATION, SPECIAL PASS AND TEMPORARY DUTY" (15 NOV 2021)
 - (g) 9 AF (AFCENT)/CC MEMORANDUM, "SECOND INTERIM INSTRUCTION FOR MOVEMENT INTO THE USCENTCOM AOR" (17 FEB 2021)
 - (h) 9 AF (AFCENT)/CoS MEMORANDUM, "USCENTCOM AND 9 AF (AFCENT) TRAVEL AND LEAVE APPROVAL PROCEDURES" (23 APR 2021)
 - (i) MEMORANDUM OF INSTRUCTION FOR CONTRACTOR MOVEMENT IN THE USCENTCOM AOR FOR USAFCENT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (30 JUNE 2020)
 - (j) USD A&S MEMORANDUM, "SPACE-AVAILABLE TRAVEL PROGRAM LIMITATIONS DUE TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019" (15 MAR 21)
 - (k) SECAF MEMORANDUM, "SPACE-A TRAVEL PROGRAM DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY REISSUANCE" (16 APR 2021)
 - (l) DOD INSTRUCTION 4515.13 AIR TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY 22 JAN 2016

- (m) SECDEF MEMORANDUM, “GUIDANCE FOR COMMANDER’S RISKBASED RESPONSES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HEALTH PROTECTION CONDITION FRAMEWORK DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019” (29 APR 2021)
- (n) 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)
- (o) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 18) DOD GUIDANCE FOR PROTECTING ALL PERSONNEL IN DOD WORKPLACES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC (17 MAR 2021)
- (p) DEPSECDEF MEMORANDUM, “UPDATED MASK GUIDANCE FOR ALL DOD INSTALLATIONS AND OTHER FACILITIES” (28 JUL 2021)
- (q) 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)
- (r) DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE MEMORANDUM, “GUIDANCE ON USE OF MASKS” (16 FEB 21)
- (s) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 22)-DOD GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE AND SCREENING TESTING (21 JUL 2021)
- (t) FORCE HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE (SUPPLEMENT 23) REVISION 2 – DOD GUIDANCE FOR CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 VACCINATION ATTESTATION, SCREENING TESTING, AND VACCINATION VERIFICATION (29 OCT 21)
- (u) 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)
- (v) USCENTCOM J3 NIGHT ORDERS FOR 09 DEC 21, 100032DEC21

Introduction

AUAB 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 **379th Air Expeditionary Wing Plans and Programs (379 AEW/XP)** (DSN 318-455-5113). Thank you for your teamwork, patience, and selfless attitudes.

Public Health Emergency

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.

Fully Vaccinated Personnel (FVP)

1. For purposes of this guidance, FVP are personnel 14 days or more past the final shot in their vaccination series. FVP not in possession of a CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Card (or equivalent, to include official military or civilian documentation) upon arrival may contact Public Health to receive verification of vaccination status prior to PERSCO in-processing. Otherwise, such personnel will be treated as unvaccinated.

2. IAW reference (a), (b) & (c), “Deploying Service members and DoD civilian employees will follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) travel guidelines for fully vaccinated individuals.” The CDC guidance on international travel for FVP is found at the link here:

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

3. The circumstances under which personnel are considered FVP are subject to change dependent on Host Nation and CDC guidance. State of Qatar vaccine requirements are found at the link here:

<https://covid19.moph.gov.qa/EN/travel-and-return-policy/Pages/default.aspx>

Travel to AUAB

1. In accordance with AFCENT/CC mandates in references (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i), **all AFCENT personnel must travel into the USCENTCOM AOR via military air for all official travel.** Any member seeking an exception to this policy must have a strong mission-critical justification and be able to meet all quarantine and entry requirements.

2. References (g) and (h) differentiate between initial entry and reentry to the AOR. Requests must be on unit letterhead and contain all information required as per the applicable exception to policy (ETP) request template. Current ETP request templates can be obtained by contacting the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Host Nation Coordination Cell (379 AEW/HNCC) (DSN 318-455-5026) or visiting the AUAB Single Source of Truth SharePoint site:

<https://orgs.auab.afcent.af.mil/afcent/wings/379/ssot/SitePages/AUAB%20Single%20source%20of%20Truth.aspx>

Each ETP must have the concurrence of the first O-6 or above in the member's chain of command and a statement of non-availability of military airlift validated by the 379 ELRS/CC prior to submission to 379 AEW/HNCC for 379 AEW/CC consideration.

3. Qatari Exceptional Entry Permits are no longer required for DoD Military, Civilian employees, and Contractors with Common Access Cards (CAC).

4. State of Qatar COVID travel guidance is found here: <https://covid19.moph.gov.qa/EN/travel-and-return-policy/Pages/default.aspx>. Consistent with this guidance, PCR testing is required ***within 72 hours*** of arrival to Qatar.

a) Upon arrival from a Green country, FVP are not subject to Restriction of Movement (ROM) requirements and may immediately register their Common Access Card (CAC) at the Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) office affording off-base travel privileges consistent with current off-base travel state.

b) Upon arrival from **Red** and **Exceptional Red** countries, FVP must:

i. Execute a post-travel ROM in accordance with State of Qatar guidance. Personnel will execute ROM in their assigned quarters, restricting movement to quarters, dining facilities (dine-out only), and 379 EMDG's COVID-19 Operations Facility (COF) or clinic.

ii. Wear a facemask during the ROM period.

iii. Receive a PCR test on day 2 of the ROM.

iv. Upon receipt of a negative PCR test result, register CAC at the DBIDS office affording off-base travel privileges consistent with current off-base travel state. A copy of the results must be presented during registration.

v. Unit commanders are responsible for ensuring compliance with provisions of this ROM.

5. Non-Fully Vaccinated Personnel (Non-FVP). Non-FVP will coordinate theater entry requirements with 379th Air Expeditionary Wing Plans and Programs (379 AEW/XP) (DSN 318-455-5113).

6. Transient Personnel. Personnel travelling through AUAB will be put into transient status and 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.

Travel to CONUS from AUAB

Per reference (u), personnel traveling into CONUS on military assets (including whole aircraft charter operators), are exempt from the CDC requirement to undergo a COVID test within 24 hours of departure. However, to the greatest extent practicable, personnel should undergo a COVID test within 24 hours of departure. In all cases, as envisioned by reference (u), pursuant to references (b) and (c), personnel will undergo a COVID test within 72 hours of departure.

On-and Off-Base Travel during the pandemic while assigned to AUAB

1. On- and off-base travel during the COVID-19 pandemic while assigned to AUAB is governed by three states – *open*, *limited*, or *closed*. The current status is posted on the AF Connect/AUAB App.

- a) During an *open* state, the threat posed by the pandemic is minimal and there are no additional requirements imposed to travel on- and off-base 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.
- b) During a *limited* state, the threat posed by the pandemic to both AUAB and our Qatari hosts is moderate, necessitating additional requirements over and above those detailed in AUBI 10-6008, Off-Base Travel, Dated 20 Feb 19 (summarized in the “AUAB Rules”) and unit operating procedures.
 - i. FVP: May travel off base at the discretion of the unit commander. Personnel traveling on-/ off- base must have their CAC registered with the Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) office and be in possession of an Etheraz App exemption memo and CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Card. FVP must wear masks off base as required by the State of Qatar.
 - ii. Non-FVP: May only travel off base for mission critical purposes with 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 submit mission critical exception requests to the 379 AEW/DS who will route for approval/disapproval. 379 AEW/DS will route approved exceptions to the 379 ESFS/CC 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 either FVP or non-FVP.

Space-A Travel

1. IAW references (j) and (k), travel exceptions may only be granted for compelling cases where travel is either (k) 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).

Force Health Protection Measures (FHPM) While on AUAB

1. These measures align AUAB with higher headquarters guidance (references (a), (m), (n), (o), (p), (q) and (r)).
2. FVP must keep their CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Card (or equivalent, to include official military or civilian documentation) in their possession for verification, or they may be treated as Non-FVP.
3. Due to the recent increased incidence of COVID-19 on AUAB, both FVP and Non-FVP are required to wear masks covering both nose and mouth except when:
 - a) Outdoors *with proper distance*
 - b) In a room alone
 - c) In a vehicle *alone*
 - d) In assigned quarters
 - e) Actively eating or drinking
 - f) Required personal protective equipment precludes wearing a facial covering
 - g) In the gym on socially distanced and *specially-marked* cardio machines only
4. Off-base travel is regulated as previously outlined. Unit commanders will ensure compliance with current off-base travel policy, Qatari laws, regulations, and Ministry of Public Health COVID-19 restrictions. All members will carry a copy of the Etheraz App exemption memo and CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Card.
5. Contact personnel in Transient Lodging at DSN 455-5060. To reach personnel in isolation trailers, contact DSN 455-6165.
6. 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.).
7. Based on current local trends and IAW authorities in references (m) and (n), AUAB is operating in **Health Protection Condition (HPCON) Bravo**. Occupancy at all MWR operations (to include, but not limited to gyms, community activity center, etc.), AAFES establishments, and dining facilities will be no greater than 50%, with appropriate social distancing between tables and chairs. In addition, all MWR operations, AAFES establishments, and dining facilities will post signage notifying patrons that mask wear inside is mandatory for all personnel. Lounges (FOX Bar, Back Bar, Churchill's, Garage, Kazbah, Zink, etc.) are closed.

8. Consistent with reference (s), due to the continued risk of breakthrough infections among the FVP population, base personnel will participate in surveillance testing as directed by the installation commander and implemented through Public Health.¹ Surveillance testing will target 5% of the AUAB FVP population. In addition, in accordance with Reference (v), AUAB will immediately implement COVID-19 testing in accordance with reference (t) for non-FVP utilizing a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)/approved test. Unit commanders for Non-FVP will coordinate procedures with 379 EMDG. Surveillance and screening testing data and infection trends will inform future decisions on restrictions.

9. 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.

10. 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

¹ Surveillance testing is designed to detect any early potential outbreaks of COVID-19. Generally, unvaccinated persons have higher risks of contracting and transmitting disease, and therefore, will likely experience a higher frequency of testing. As further data illuminates other elevated risk populations, surveillance testing will adjust to appropriately sample those populations.