

Date: February 28, 2022

From: Deputy Under Secretary for Health, Performing the Delegable Duties of the Under Secretary for Health (10)

Subj: COVID-19: Authorization for VHA Travel (VIEWS 7030166)

To: Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Directors (10N1 – 10N23)
VISN Chief Medical Officers
VISN Chief Nurse Officers

1. This memorandum replaces guidance provided on Mission Critical Travel last updated on December 28, 2021. Senior executive staff and their designees may once again authorize travel for Veterans Health Administration (VHA) employees to restart mandatory program inspections, conduct face-to-face meetings that align with VHA priorities, and to support staff speaking engagements and continuing education. VHA Central Office, VISN, and facility leaders are encouraged to support travel that is limited to a non-health care setting, where possible.
2. VHA employees must follow local, state and Federal guidance for COVID-19 mitigation strategies while on travel and meet any requirements for testing and self-quarantine. VHA Administrations and Staff Offices can find their community data on the [National Surveillance Tool](#) to aid with identifying the local community COVID-19 burden. The source information is from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and can be found at the [COVID-19 Integrated County View site](#) from the CDC.



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