



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 328  
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 16, 2020

This handout provides recommendations from different State and Federal agencies regarding the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19). This information is based on what is currently known about the new COVID-19 as of March 16. For the most updated information from the State Department of Health (DOH), please visit [health.hawaii.gov/covid19](https://health.hawaii.gov/covid19). You can also sign up to receive daily COVID-19 updates from DOH at [health.hawaii.gov/news/covid-19-updates](https://health.hawaii.gov/news/covid-19-updates). Please stay informed through official government agencies, such as DOH, the State Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to ensure you are updated with the most accurate and timely information and prevent the spread of misinformation.

### **COVID-19 General Information**

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness with symptoms that can include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, appearing as few as 2 days and as many as 14 days after exposure to the virus.

It is important for everyone, even those who are young and healthy, to take immediate steps to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Doing so is our best chance of reducing stress on our healthcare system and protecting the more vulnerable members of our community. Please do your part by eliminating non-essential travel and large gatherings, practicing social distancing by holding virtual meetings online or by phone, maintaining distance between people (at least 6 feet), and practicing rigorous hygiene.

If you are sick, it is imperative that you practice self-quarantine to reduce further spread of illness (whether of COVID-19 or something else). Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, wear a facemask, and clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces. Please get a flu vaccine to protect yourself from the flu. If you need to see a doctor, please call ahead and tell them you have or may have COVID-19 to allow healthcare providers take steps to limit other people's exposure.

### **CDC's Guidance for Businesses and Employers**

This guidance is intended to prevent workplace exposures to COVID-19 and limit community spread of the virus. Recommended strategies for employers to use now:

- **Send sick employees home immediately.**
  - Employees who have symptoms of fever, cough, or shortness of breath should stay in self-isolation and not come to work.
  - Ensure that your sick leave policies are flexible and consistent with public health guidance and inform your employees of such policies. Employers should also maintain flexible policies that permit employees to stay home to care for a sick family member.

Develop non-punitive leave policies to support employees making responsible choices consistent with public health guidance.

- Do not require a healthcare provider's note for employees who are sick to either validate their illness or return to work. We want to reduce excess stress on our healthcare system during this time.
- Employees who are well but reside with someone who has COVID-19 should notify their employer. Employers, please consult the attached Employer Risk Assessment Guidance to assess the employee's exposure risk level (Table 1) and determine the recommended management plan (Table 2).
- **Emphasize respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene by all employees** – Place posters that encourage staying home when sick, cough and sneeze etiquette, and hand hygiene at the entrance of your workplace and other visible areas. Provide tissues, alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, and soap and water to employees.
- **Perform routine environmental cleaning** – Routinely clean and disinfect all frequently touched surfaces in the workplace.

For more information from CDC on how your business can plan, prepare, and respond to COVID-19, please visit <http://bit.ly/cdc-business-guidance>.

#### **DOH Guidance**

In addition to the above CDC recommendations, DOH recommends that large, crowded gatherings or public events that include 100 people or more, or smaller gatherings held in enclosed spaces that do not allow social distancing, be postponed, cancelled, or held virtually. A safe "social distance" is defined as a minimum of two-arms-length (six feet) between people.

#### **Matson Operations**

Matson operations are continuing without interruptions and they intend to maintain all service schedules as normal. Matson is committed to taking all appropriate steps to ensure the continuation of services necessary to meet the needs of their customers. Matson also has frequent and regular communication with the U.S. Coast Guard and DOT regarding commercial port operations.

#### **State Legislature**

State and county agencies are actively preparing for continuity of business operations to deal with the potential impact of COVID-19. The State's goal is to enable ongoing operations in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak in Hawai'i. At this time, businesses should remain open and continue to follow everyday preventative actions explained above.

House Resolution No. 54 established the House Select Committee on COVID-19 Economic and Financial Preparedness to work with representatives from local and state government, private industry, and nonprofit organizations to inform the House of Representatives on the economic and financial impact of COVID-19 and mitigation measures for the State. Please visit the State Legislature's website at [capitol.hawaii.gov](http://capitol.hawaii.gov) for Committee meeting notices, agendas, and relevant economic documents.

**CDC's EXPOSURE RISK CATEGORIES**

**Table 1. Risk Categories for Exposures Associated with International Travel or Identified during Contact Investigations of Laboratory-confirmed Cases**

Risk Level	Geographic (Travel-associated) Exposures*	Exposures Identified through Contact Investigation
<b>High</b>	Travel from Hubei Province, China	Living in the same household as, being an intimate partner of, or providing care in a nonhealthcare setting (such as a home) for a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection <b>without using recommended precautions</b> for <a href="#">home care</a> and <a href="#">home isolation</a>
<b>Medium</b> (assumes no exposures in the high-risk category)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel from mainland China outside Hubei Province or Iran</li> <li>• Travel from a country with widespread sustained transmission, other than China or Iran</li> <li>• Travel from a country with sustained community transmission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close contact with a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19</li> <li>• On an aircraft, being seated within 6 feet (two meters) of a traveler with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection; this distance correlates approximately with 2 seats in each direction</li> <li>• Living in the same household as, an intimate partner of, or caring for a person in a nonhealthcare setting (such as a home) to a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection <b>while consistently using recommended precautions</b> for <a href="#">home care</a> and <a href="#">home isolation</a></li> </ul>
<b>Low</b> (assumes no exposures in the high-risk category)	Travel from any other country	Being in the same indoor environment (e.g., a classroom, a hospital waiting room) as a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time but not meeting the definition of close contact
<b>No identifiable risk</b>	Not applicable	Interactions with a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection that do not meet any of the high-, medium- or low-risk conditions above, such as walking by the person or being briefly in the same room.

\*In general, geographic exposure categories do not apply to travelers who only transit through an airport.

**CDC's RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT BASED ON RISK LEVEL**

**Table 2. Summary of CDC Recommendations for Management of Exposed Persons with by Risk Level and Presence of Symptoms**

Risk Level	Management if Asymptomatic	Management if Symptomatic <sup>1</sup>
<b>High risk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarantine (voluntary or under public health orders) in a location to be determined by public health authorities.</li> <li>• No public activities.</li> <li>• Daily active monitoring, if possible based on local priorities</li> <li>• Controlled travel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediate isolation with consideration of public health orders</li> <li>• Public health assessment to determine the need for medical evaluation; if medical evaluation warranted, diagnostic testing should be guided by CDC's <a href="#">PUI definition</a></li> <li>• If medical evaluation is needed, it should occur with pre-notification to the receiving HCF and EMS, if EMS transport indicated, and with all recommended <a href="#">infection control precautions</a> in place.</li> <li>• Controlled travel: Air travel only via air medical transport. Local travel is only allowed by medical transport (e.g., ambulance) or private vehicle while symptomatic person is wearing a face mask.</li> </ul>
<b>Medium risk</b>	<p><b>Close contacts in this category:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendation to remain at home or in a comparable setting</li> <li>• Practice social distancing</li> <li>• Active monitoring as determined by local priorities</li> <li>• Recommendation to postpone long-distance travel on commercial conveyances</li> </ul> <p><b>Travelers from mainland China (outside Hubei Province) or Iran</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendation to remain at home or in a comparable setting</li> <li>• Practice social distancing</li> <li>• Self-monitoring with public health supervision as determined by local priorities</li> <li>• Recommendation to postpone additional long-distance travel on commercial conveyances after they reach their final destination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-isolation</li> <li>• Public health assessment to determine the need for medical evaluation; if medical evaluation warranted, diagnostic testing should be guided by CDC's <a href="#">PUI definition</a></li> <li>• If medical evaluation is needed, it should ideally occur with pre-notification to the receiving HCF and EMS, if EMS transport indicated, and with all recommended <a href="#">infection control precautions</a> in place.</li> <li>• Controlled travel: Air travel only via air medical transport. Local travel is only allowed by medical transport (e.g., ambulance) or private vehicle while symptomatic person is wearing a face mask.</li> </ul>

**Table 2. Summary of CDC Recommendations for Management of Exposed Persons with by Risk Level and Presence of Symptoms**

Risk Level	Management if Asymptomatic	Management if Symptomatic <sup>1</sup>
	<p><b>Travelers from other country with widespread transmission</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendation to remain at home or in a comparable setting,</li> <li>• Practice social distancing</li> <li>• Self-monitoring</li> <li>• Recommendation to postpone additional long-distance travel on commercial conveyances after they reach their final destination</li> </ul> <p><b>Travelers from country with sustained community transmission</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice social distancing</li> <li>• Self-observation</li> </ul>	
<b>Low risk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No restriction on movement</li> <li>• Self-observation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-isolation, social distancing</li> <li>• Person should seek health advice to determine if medical evaluation is needed.</li> <li>• If sought, medical evaluation and care should be guided by clinical presentation; diagnostic testing for COVID-19 should be guided by CDC's <a href="#">PUI definition</a>.</li> <li>• Travel on commercial conveyances should be postponed until no longer symptomatic.</li> </ul>
<b>No identifiable risk</b>	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-isolation, social distancing</li> <li>• Person should seek health advice to determine if medical evaluation is needed.</li> <li>• If sought, medical evaluation and care should be guided by clinical presentation; diagnostic testing for COVID-19 should be guided by CDC's <a href="#">PUI definition</a>.</li> <li>• Travel on commercial conveyances should be postponed until no longer symptomatic.</li> </ul>

EMS = emergency medical services; HCF = healthcare facility; PUI = Person Under Investigation for COVID-19

<sup>1</sup>For the purpose of this document: subjective or measured fever, cough, or difficulty breathing.