



**Alaska, Utqiaġvik – Contains Two Travel Options**

**Option 1 - Direct to Utqiaġvik**

(Authorized if airport lay-overs will be <8 hours and travelers do not depart the airport campus)

	Action/Event	Pre-Departure (Days)														En Route (Days)												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
Pre-Departure	Strict Social Distancing	14 Day Strict Social Distancing																										
	Test																											
	Test Results																											
	Submit Travel Plan and Test Result in Alaska Portal																											
	Submit Battelle-ARO Travel Fitness Verification																											
Quarantine	Travel to Utqiaġvik																											
	Hotel Quarantine																											
	Test																											
	Test Results																											
UIC	Move to Ukpik II																											
	Begin Activities																											

- All travelers will receive a shipment of infection prevention supplies for the trip.
- All travelers must complete training on infection prevention travel procedures.  
<https://projects.battelle.org/radsafety/safetravels/story.html>
- Researchers are strongly encouraged to obtain medical travel/evacuation insurance.
- At least 14 days prior to departure, all travelers should check the COVID-19 websites for each destination along their routes of travel (Attached) and begin preparing any required documents.

**All NSF-funded travelers must complete the following quarantine procedures, regardless of vaccination status and the State of Alaska exemptions. The Arctic program will continue to monitor pandemic and vaccine developments and will update this protocol when new evidence becomes available.**

- 14 days prior to departure, travelers must begin Strict Social Distancing and determine the availability and lab turn-around time for RT-PCR (aka NAAT or molecular) tests in their area (100-mile radius).
  - Travelers should consult these links to research their [state](#) and [local](#) testing locations.
  - If local RT-PCR testing will not be available on the required test day (e.g., Sunday) or the results from the local lab will not be available prior to departure, travelers must notify Matthew Irinaga at [Matthew.Irinaga@uiccs.com](mailto:Matthew.Irinaga@uiccs.com) or 907-978-0564 no later than a week prior to their scheduled departure.
- Prior to travel, interstate travelers must file a travel declaration form and negative COVID-19 test result via the Alaska travel portal <https://www.alaska.covidsecureapp.com/>.
- 72 hours (3 days) prior to departure, all travelers must obtain an RT-PCR COVID-19 test.
- 24 hours prior to travel, travelers must submit their travel fitness verification forms to Battelle ARO at this link: [Pre-Travel Verification](#).
- Also prior to departing from their homes, researchers are required to verify that their NSF program officer and their research institution health and safety offices have received and approved their COVID-19 protective plans. Provide a copy of this plan to the UICS HSE Specialist, Matthew Irinaga ([Matthew.Irinaga@uiccs.com](mailto:Matthew.Irinaga@uiccs.com)).
- Research teams should travel together as a “pod” (i.e., arrive on the same flight). A “pod” can function as members of an “immediate household” regarding quarantine, social distancing, and testing.

- After arriving in Utqiagvik, pods should walk or drive directly to the ARO pre-arranged quarantine location, which is 0.2 miles from the airport.
- Pods must quarantine for 7 days in Utqiagvik.
- During quarantine, travelers must register with Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital (SSMH) in Utqiagvik so they will be eligible to receive COVID-19 testing at the drive-thru site. (<https://arcticslope.org/ssmh-registration-form/>).
- NOTE: The third link on the site contains the COVID-19 testing form. The other forms are unnecessary for drive-thru testing.
- Around Day 5, the pod members will wear masks and travel in a pre-arranged vehicle to the SSMH drive-thru testing station and return to hotel quarantine.
- Asymptomatic travelers may exit quarantine when negative results return, which is usually Day 8.
- After quarantine, pods will gather their belongings and proceed to the Ukpik II dormitory.
- After beginning activities, all visitors to Utqiagvik may interact with their pods but must continue to practice social distancing from other pods and the community.

**Option 2 - Quarantine in Fairbanks or Anchorage en Route to Utqiagvik**

(If layovers are > 8 hours or travelers depart an airport campus while traveling to Alaska)

	Action/Event	Pre-Departure (Days)														En Route (Days)																
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Pre-Departure	Strict Social Distancing	14 Day Strict Social Distancing																														
	Test																															
	Test Results																															
	Submit Travel Plan and Test Result in Alaska Portal																															
	Submit Battelle-ARO Travel Fitness Verification																															
AK APOD	Travel to Anchorage or Fairbanks															0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8																
	Hotel Quarantine															0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8																
	Test																															
	Return Travel Fitness Verification																															
	Test Results																															
Utqiagvik	Travel to Utqiagvik																															
	Hotel/Lodging Quarantine															0 1 2 3 4 5																
	Test																															
	Test Results																															
	Move to Ukpik II															0 1 2 3 4 5																
	Activities With Strict Social Distancing															0 1 2 3 4 5																
	Activities with Regular Precautions															0 1 2 3 4 5																
																	0 1 2 3 4 5															

- All travelers will receive a shipment of infection prevention supplies for the trip.
  - All travelers must complete training on infection prevention travel procedures.  
<https://projects.battelle.org/radsafety/safetravels/story.html>
  - Researchers are strongly encouraged to obtain medical travel/evacuation insurance.
  - At least 14 days prior to departure, all travelers should check the COVID-19 websites for each destination along their routes of travel (Attached) and begin preparing any required documents.
- All NSF-funded travelers must complete the following quarantine procedures, regardless of vaccination status and the State of Alaska exemptions. The Arctic program will continue to monitor pandemic and vaccine developments and will update this protocol when new evidence becomes available.**
- 14 days prior to departure, travelers must begin Strict Social Distancing and determine the availability and turn-around time for RT-PCR (aka NAAT or molecular) tests in their area (100-mile radius).
    - Travelers should consult these links to research their [state](#) and [local](#) testing locations.
    - If local RT-PCR testing will not be available on the required test day (e.g., Sunday) or the results from the local lab will not be available prior to departure, travelers must notify Matthew Irinaga at [Matthew.Irinaga@uiccs.com](mailto:Matthew.Irinaga@uiccs.com) or 907-978-0564 no later than a week prior to their scheduled departure.
  - Prior to travel, interstate travelers must file a travel declaration form and negative COVID-19 test result via the Alaska travel portal <https://www.alaska.covidsecureapp.com/>.
  - 72 hours (3 days) prior to departure, all travelers must obtain an RT-PCR COVID-19 test.
  - 24 hours prior to travel, travelers must submit their travel fitness verification forms to Battelle ARO at this link: [Pre-Travel Verification](#).
  - Also prior to departing from their homes, researchers are required to verify that their NSF program officer and their research institution health and safety offices have received and approved their COVID-19 protective plans. Provide a copy of this plan to the UICS HSE Specialist, Matthew Irinaga ([Matthew.Irinaga@uiccs.com](mailto:Matthew.Irinaga@uiccs.com)).
  - Research teams should travel together as a “pod” (i.e., arrive on the same flight). A “pod” can function as members of an “immediate household” regarding quarantine, social distancing, and testing.
  - Pods must quarantine for approximately 8 days in their homes (Alaska residents) or their Alaska aerial port of debarkation (APOD), i.e., Anchorage or Fairbanks. ARO will arrange an “in-hotel” or “in home”

test collection around Day 5. Travelers may exit quarantine on when negative results return, which is usually on Day 8.

- For Alaska residents quarantining at home, either everyone in the home must quarantine with the traveler, or the traveler must remain segregated from the other occupants.
- 24 hours prior to their intrastate trip, travelers must submit their post quarantine verification forms. [Post Quarantine Verification](#)
- After arriving in Utqiagvik, pods should walk or drive directly to the ARO pre-arranged quarantine location, which is 0.2 miles from the airport.
- During quarantine, travelers must register with Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital (SSMH) in Utqiagvik so they will be eligible to receive COVID-19 testing at the drive-thru site. (<https://arcticslope.org/ssmh-registration-form/>).
  - NOTE: The third link on the site contains the COVID-19 testing form. The other forms are unnecessary for drive-thru testing.
- On Day 5 of quarantine, asymptomatic travelers will gather their belongings and proceed immediately to the SSMH drive-through testing facility and receive a molecular COVID-19 test. Then, they should proceed to the Ukpik II dormitory.
  - After moving into Ukpik II, Pods must adhere to Strict Social Distancing until they receive negative test results.
- After beginning activities, all visitors to Utqiagvik may interact with their pods but must continue to practice social distancing from other pods and the community.

### Definitions

**Quarantine:** keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.

**Isolation:** keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others.

**Strict Social Distancing:** is a term ARO adopted from the State of Alaska that summarizes CDC's pre-travel guidance and other best practices. The goal of Strict Social Distancing is to avoid close contact, which means remaining six feet away from anyone not in the immediate household.

To achieve this goal travelers must avoid venues like:

- Large social gatherings such as weddings, funerals, or parties
- Mass gatherings, like sporting events, concerts, or parades
- Businesses like restaurants, bars, fitness centers, or movie theaters
- Trains, buses, airports, ride-shares, and public transportation
- Cruise ships, ferries, or river boats
- Occupied office buildings, schools, and day-care centers
- Contact or quasi-contact sports, such as basketball, hockey, football, and soccer

And:

- Wear face coverings and remain six feet away from anyone not in their immediate households
- Use delivery or curbside pick-up for groceries, meals, or other errands

## Attachment 1 Summary of Travel Requirements and Websites

Summary of Travel Requirements and Websites	
Destinations	Requirements Summary and Website
Seattle	<p>The State of Washington advises travelers to follow the current CDC travel guidelines.</p> <p><a href="https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/Travel">https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/Travel</a></p> <p><a href="https://visitseattle.org/travel-advisory/">https://visitseattle.org/travel-advisory/</a></p>
City of Anchorage	<p>The City of Anchorage strongly encourages non-resident travelers to obtain pre-travel testing.</p> <p><a href="https://covid-response-moa-muniorg.hub.arcgis.com/pages/emergency-orders">https://covid-response-moa-muniorg.hub.arcgis.com/pages/emergency-orders</a></p> <p>Note: Anchorage recommendations are mandatory for NSF-funded travelers.</p>
State of Alaska	<p>Alaska recommends travelers submit a travel declaration and pre-travel negative test result through a portal. (State Public Health Order #2). Travelers may also upload proof of vaccination or register to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.</p> <p><a href="https://covid19.alaska.gov/travelers/">https://covid19.alaska.gov/travelers/</a></p> <p>Note: Alaska recommendations are mandatory for NSF-funded travelers.</p>
Fairbanks North Star Borough	<p>Fairbanks' guidance is the same as the State of Alaska's</p> <p><a href="https://www.fairbanksalaska.us/mayor/page/covid-19-information">https://www.fairbanksalaska.us/mayor/page/covid-19-information</a></p>
Toolik Field Station	<p>Toolik Field Station requires residents to quarantine in Fairbanks for 10 days and receive two, negative COVID tests</p> <p><a href="https://www.uaf.edu/toolik/news/covid-19.php">https://www.uaf.edu/toolik/news/covid-19.php</a></p>
City of Utqiagvik	<p>The City of Utqiagvik strongly recommends that individuals who are not fully vaccinated quarantine for 10 days after arriving in the city. As mentioned above, NSF requires all travelers to quarantine for a minimum of 10 days after arrival, regardless of vaccination status OR to quarantine 10 days at the APOD and then quarantine for 5 days after arrival in Uqiagvik.</p> <p><a href="http://www.north-slope.org/assets/images/uploads/news/2021-04-26_16-43.pdf">http://www.north-slope.org/assets/images/uploads/news/2021-04-26_16-43.pdf</a></p>
Prudhoe Bay	<p>The Arctic Oilfield Hotel requires travelers to obtain a negative test 72 hours prior to arrival.</p>
Alaska Remote Locations	<p>The State of Alaska recommends travelers quarantine 10 days in their arrival city and obtain a negative test 72 hours prior to travel away from the road system or AMHS. However, remote municipalities may publish more stringent measures.</p> <p><a href="#">Alaska GIS-enabled COVID-19 Clearinghouse</a></p> <p><a href="#">Interior Alaska COVID-19 Hub</a></p> <p><a href="#">Norton Sound Health Corporation</a></p> <p><a href="#">Arctic Slope Native Association Press Releases</a></p> <p><a href="#">Directory of Local Health Departments (National Association of County Health Officials)</a></p> <p>Note: Alaska recommendations are mandatory for NSF travelers</p>