

Mobility: immigration alert

June 2022

United States

U.S. lifts pre-departure COVID-19 testing requirement

Executive summary

On 10 June 2022, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an Order rescinding the requirement for air travelers to present:

- ▶ a negative pre-departure COVID-19 test result; or
- ▶ documentation of recovery from COVID-19.

The rescission is effective for all aircraft departing their point of origin on or after 12 June 2022 at 12:01 am EDT.

Background and analysis

On 26 January 2021, the CDC issued the now-rescinded Order establishing the requirement for a negative pre-departure COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19. A subsequent amendment required all air passengers two years or older traveling to the United States to present a negative COVID-19 test result from a sample taken no more than one day before departure, or documentation of recovery within the past 90 days, prior to boarding a flight.

In consideration of the vaccines, therapeutics, and prevention measures to which travelers now have access, the CDC has determined that it is not necessary to leave the Order in place to prevent the introduction of currently circulating variants of SARS-CoV-2 into the United States. The CDC continues to recommend that travelers get tested for current infection with a viral test before and

after travel so that the appropriate precautions can be taken, but a negative test result is no longer mandatory in order to travel to the United States by air.

What this means

Travelers abroad seeking to board a flight to the United States are no longer required to present a negative COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19. The CDC will continue to monitor circulating variants around the world and, if a variant emerges that may present increased risk of severe illness and death, can elect to enhance prevention measures, including reinstating testing requirements.

We will continue to monitor and review future developments. For additional information, or if you wish to discuss this further, please contact your EY Law LLP professional.



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