

March 18, 2021

Out of State Travel and COVID Implications – Archdiocese of Baltimore

Although Governor Larry Hogan lifted travel restrictions on March 12, the health advisory remains in place. It **recommends** individuals returning from out of state travel should quarantine pending a negative test result.

Each parish should evaluate their particular key risk factors to determine if the parish will adopt a quarantine and testing protocol for those returning from out-of-state travel. Factors to evaluate should include, but are not limited to, the following considerations:

Size of staff: The larger the staff the more consideration should be given to implementing testing.

Vaccination Rate: The fewer number of vaccinated individuals on staff the more consideration should be given to testing.

Average Age of Staff: The older the staff on average, the more consideration should be made for testing.

General Health of Staff: The more known comorbidities the greater the need for testing.

Physical Office Layout: If the office offers minimal spacing, minor physical barriers between employees, poor ventilation or other challenging layout, then more consideration should be given to testing.

Staff Dynamics What has been the staff's general attitude toward COVID? Vigilant? Indifference? The parish needs to assess the staff's acceptance and therefore viability of quarantining and testing protocols if not mandated by Maryland.

Based upon the above analysis the parish should institute a policy and program that works for the parish. The decision may not be to institute any program to address quarantining and testing for those returning from out-of-state travel.