

July 8, 2020

New COVID-19 rules are levied for incoming travelers

On July 3, 2020, Governor Wanda Vazquez issued Executive Order 2020-052 (“EO 2020-052”), repealing Executive Order 2020-023, extending the mandatory quarantine for travelers that had been in place since EO-2020-23, as amended by EO-2020-30 and 45. Effective **July 15, 2020**, EO 2020-52 adds new requirements, most notably a COVID-19 test prior to arrival, and eliminates the exemption previously afforded to certain visitors performing essential services.

EO-2020-052 now requires travelers incoming from the United States or any international destination to submit to a fourteen (14) day quarantine upon arrival (or for the duration of their stay, if shorter), unless the traveler presents a negative COVID-19 molecular test result from a test administered within seventy-two (72) hours before the traveler’s arrival.

The traveler will need to complete a traveler declaration, which may be completed online before the arrival. The traveler will need to stay quarantined in the location provided in the declaration. The quarantined traveler will only be able to go leave the quarantine location to visit a health specialist or to address an emergency. EO-2020-052 exempts from its quarantine requirements the flight crew members that will not stay in Puerto Rico for more than seventy-two hours, federal agents, active military, and other personnel explicitly exempted by the Health Department. Travelers will need to use facial cloths or masks from arrival and during their stay. If the traveler is found to have COVID-19 symptoms when arriving at the airport, he or she will be submitted to a serological COVID-19 test. If the result is negative, the traveler will receive a referral for a molecular test. This traveler will have to stay quarantined until he or she has obtained a negative COVID-19 molecular test result and the corresponding agencies are notified. If the serology test results are positive, the traveler will be subject to a molecular test in the airport and will have to stay quarantined until the molecular test throws a negative result.
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