

# North Slope Borough

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



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*Harry K. Brower, Jr. Mayor*

## **North Slope Borough Employee Travel Policy (Update)**

Due to the other variants of COVID-19, we must all continue to remain vigilant and not let our guard down against the virus that has affected us all, over the past year.

COVID-19 vaccines are effective in protecting you from getting sick. More people who are vaccinated with COVID-19 vaccinations lead to fewer COVID-19 illnesses, hospitalizations, and deaths. Anyone 12 years or older who lives or works in Alaska is eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

The Delta Variant is more contagious than the other various strains, if you are fully vaccinated and become infected with the Delta Variant you can spread the virus to others. Unvaccinated people are at risk and this could lead to outbreaks within our communities. Vaccination is the best protection against Delta Variant.

## **North Slope Borough Employee Travel**

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of our communities, we have updated the North Slope Borough COVID-19 Travel Policy, previous policies and plans regarding employee travel. Employees traveling to, and within, the North Slope Borough must do one of the following before returning to the workplace:

- 1.) Employee can provide proof of fully COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccinated employees should mask up and get tested when showing symptoms or
- 2.) Obtain a negative result from a COVID-19 (SARS-CoV2 PCR) laboratory test conducted on the day of travel, or after arrival to the North Slope Borough. This cannot be a "rapid test". Employees must quarantine and practice social distancing as much as feasible until they are notified that they tested negative for COVID-19. Employees unable to work due to testing requirements must use annual leave or be on LWOP while waiting for a negative COVID-19 test result. Telework requires prior supervisory approval; or
- 3.) For employees who reside outside of the North Slope Borough, obtain a COVID-19 (SARS-CoV2 PCR) laboratory test within 3 days of travel to the North Slope Borough, and not depart for the North Slope Borough until a negative test result is obtained. Employees must isolate and practice social distancing as much as feasible after the COVID-19 test is conducted until departure to the North Slope Borough; or
- 4.) Quarantine for 10-days after arrival at their final destination on slope. Employees must isolate and practice social distancing as much as feasible during layovers. During quarantine, employees may not visit any public spaces or have visitors, other than medical professionals, or others authorized by the North Slope Borough Incident Management Team. Employees may

only leave their quarantine location for medical emergencies or to seek medical care. Employees unable to telework during quarantine must use annual leave or be on LWOP. Telework requires prior supervisory approval; or

5.) Employee can provide proof of a positive COVID-19 test within the past 90 days, is currently without symptoms and can provide documentation of recovery from a medical provider or public health official indicating the employee was released from isolation.

Department Directors may authorize special travel arrangements for rotational employees, employees with irregular work schedules and for unusual/emergency circumstances. All authorizations must be submitted to the NSB Office of Emergency Management for review.

The NSB respects local mandates and concerns of our communities, please contact them for updates, restrictions, and mandates. We will continue to notify officials of any planned intra-slope travel of employees through email. (See more at: <http://www.north-slope.org/news/detail/covid19-updates>)

This policy is effective August 27, 2021 and is effective until rescinded.

  
North Slope Borough Mayor