



Guidance Memo
Office of the President, Georgia Military College
(478) 387-4775/4776

SUBJECT: UPDATED: GMC Guidance for Returning International Travelers and GMC Sponsored Travel

DATE: March 10, 2020

BACKGROUND:

Georgia Military College continues to monitor developments regarding the coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19). This is a rapidly evolving situation with change in government policies and recommendations as the situation evolves. At this time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a Warning-Level 3 for China, Iran, South Korea, and Italy. Warning Level 3 issues guidance for individuals to avoid nonessential travel. Therefore, the CDC currently recommends travelers avoid all nonessential travel to these countries. GMC likewise strongly discourages travel to these countries for the immediate future.

GUIDANCE:

Consistent with the CDC recommendations for travelers returning to the United States from any Level 3 country, Georgia Military College will require a 14-day quarantine period for travelers from those countries. Travelers should check the [CDC website](#) for the latest threat level rating for their destination and plan accordingly.

Please notify your campus Executive Director or departmental supervisor if you plan to travel to any of these countries. Students and employees, full and partime, who have traveled to or will travel to one of these countries must isolate themselves upon their return from others in their place of dwelling while monitoring signs and symptoms which include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Employees will not be reimbursed by the institution for the 14 day quarantine period. Be aware symptoms may not appear for 2 to 14 days after exposure. If you are returning from a country with a CDC Alert 2 or Watch level you should follow the preventative recommended actions provided by the CDC to include; maintaining vigilant hygiene practices, self-monitoring for symptoms, and assessing internal body temperature twice



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per day for 14 days after return. If you experience any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19 you should contact your healthcare provider immediately.

At this time, domestic travelers and travelers to countries that do not have an elevated CDC Warning Level do not need to take any action outside of monitoring their health and **practicing good hygiene and prevention**. For individuals who will continue to travel in the coming weeks/months, please be vigilant about practicing good hygiene in congested areas where exposure to COVID-19 may be elevated such as; airports, large metropolitan areas, colder climates, large community events/mass gatherings, and confined spaces where food is consumed. If you begin to experience symptoms it is important to follow up with your health care practitioner; do not come in to work until you have been cleared by a physician.

We have learned that the State Department in cooperation with the CDC has issued [guidance on Cruises](#). There is an increased risk of infection of COVID-19 in a cruise ship environment and U.S. Citizens are being advised not to travel by cruise ship internationally. The State Department has pointed out that many countries have implemented screening procedures, denied port entry rights to ships, and prevented disembarking. **Out of an abundance of caution for the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff and guests, we are temporarily extending the 14-day quarantine to any travel on an international cruise line as well.**

Finally, GMC has placed CDC Warning Level 3 countries on a restricted travel list for college-affiliated student and faculty travel. Any exceptions to travel to those countries must be approved by the President.