



Belize Department of Civil Aviation

ADVISORY CIRCULAR

Subject: REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS **DATE:** 22nd January, 2021

AC No: BDCA-01-2021

Initiated by: Belize Department of Civil Aviation

Change: First version

1. THE PURPOSE OF THIS ADVISORY CIRCULAR (AC).

This AC has been developed in order to provide guidance on the entry of aircraft passengers departing from a foreign country, in this case Belize, and entering the United States of America.

It also serves as a **reminder** issued by the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC) in conjunction with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of the requirements for airlines, other aircraft operators and the general flying public of the strict adherence and compliance of legislation as described in this AC.

2. WHAT THIS AC CANCELS

This AC is a first version.

3. WHO THIS AC AFFECTS/APPLICABILITY.

This AC applies to all airlines, other aircraft operators and the general flying public departing from Belize and entering the United States of America.

4. WHERE TO GET A COPY OF THIS AC.

You can ask for a copy of this AC at the BDCA Technical Library or download from the BDCA website at www.civilaviation.gov.bz

5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

26th January, 2021.

Mr. Nigel Carter,
Director of Civil Aviation (Ag.)
Belize Department of Civil Aviation

AC No: BDCA-01-2021

1

Revision No. Original
Date: 22nd January, 2021



Belize Department of Civil Aviation

6. GENERAL.

Advisory Circulars (ACs) are issued by the BDCA and contain information about standards, practices, recommendations and advisory or public information acceptable to the BDCA. The revision number of the AC is indicated in parenthesis in the suffix of the AC number.

7. CANCELLATION.

This AC is the first version.

8. REFERENCES.

United States CDC/FAA requirements.

9. INFORMATION.

The United States Center for Disease Control (CDC,) in conjunction with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has released legislation that mandates adherence by the General Flying public in an effort achieve the following paramount objective:

1. Preservation of human life
2. Preventing the further introduction, transmission and spread of the Virus that causes COVID-19 into the United States, including new virus variants.
3. Preserving the health and safety of crew members, passengers, airport personnel, and communities; and
4. Preserving hospital, healthcare, and emergency response resourced within the United States.

U.S. Legislation prohibits the introduction into the United States of any aircraft departing from a foreign country unless the passenger (1) has a negative pre- departure test result for the SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 after previous SARS-CoV-2 infection in the form of a positive viral test result and a letter from a licensed health care provider or public health official stating that the passenger has been cleared for travel (Documentation of Recovery).

The negative pre- departure test must be a viral test that was conducted on a specimen collected during the 3 calendar days preceding the flight's departure from a foreign country (Qualifying Test). Alternatively, if the passenger has recovered from COVID- 19, the passenger may instead travel with written or electronic documentation of a positive viral test result that confirms previous SARS- CoV-2 infection and a letter from a licensed health care provider or public health official stating that the



Belize Department of Civil Aviation

passenger has been cleared for travel (Documentation of Recovery). A passenger must retain written or electronic documentation reflecting the negative Qualifying Test result or Documentation of Recovery presented to the airline or other aircraft operator. A passenger must also produce Qualifying Test result or Documentation of Recovery upon Request to any U.S. government official or a cooperating state or local public health authority.

U.S. legislation constitutes a controlled free pratique to any airline or other aircraft operator with an aircraft arriving in the United States. Pursuant to this controlled free pratique, the airline, or other aircraft to enter and disembark passengers in the United States:

Requirements for Airlines & Other Aircraft Operators

Any airline or other aircraft operator with passengers arriving in the United States from a foreign country, for each passenger on board the aircraft arriving in the United States, shall

- a) Verify that each passenger has attested to having received either a negative Qualifying Test result or to recovery from COVID-19 after previous SARS-COV-2 infection and clearance to travel. Airlines or other aircraft operators must retain a copy of each passenger attestation for 2 years. The attestation is attached to this AIC as Attachment A.
- b) Confirm that each passenger aged 2 years or older has documentation of a negative Qualifying Test result or Documentation of Recovery from COVID-19.
- c) Not board any passenger without verifying the attestation and confirming the documentation as set forth in a and b above.

DEFINITIONS

Confirm that every passenger on board the aircraft has documentation reflecting a negative Qualifying Test result means confirmation that:

- 1) The personal identifiers (e.g., name and date of birth) on the negative Qualifying Test result matches the personal identifiers on the passenger's passport or other travel documents.
- 2) If the passenger is arriving on a direct flight to the United States, the specimen was collected within the 3 calendar days preceding the flight's departure.
- 3) If the passenger is arriving via one or more connecting flights, the specimen was collected within the calendar days preceding the departure of the initial flight but only if.
 - a) The connecting flights were booked as a single passenger record with a destination in the United States,
 - b) Each connection is no longer than 24 hours, and
 - c) The airline or aircraft operator has instructed the passenger to comply and uses reasonable efforts to facilitate compliance with the safety protocols set forth in Runway to Recovery 1.1,



Belize Department of Civil Aviation

December 21st, 2020, available at <http://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/runway-recovery-11> , during such connection (s);

- 4) The test performed was a viral test; and
- 5) The test result states “NEGATIVE,” SARS-CoV-2 RNA NOT DETECTED.” “SARS- CoV-2 ANTIGEN NOT DETECTED,” OR COVID-19 NOT DETECTED.’ A test marked ‘invalid’ is not acceptable.

Confirm that a passenger alternatively has written or electronic documentation of recovery from COVID-19 means confirmation that:

- 1) The passenger has presented documentation of a positive test result and signed letter on official letterhead that contains the name, address, and phone number of a licensed healthcare provider or public health official stating that the passenger has been cleared for travel.
- 2) The positive test result occurred within the last three months (90 days) preceding the passenger’s flight to the United States, or at such intervals as specified in the CDC guidance.
- 3) The personal identifiers (e.g., name and date of birth) on the positive test result and signed letter matches the personal identifiers on the passengers’ passport or other travel documents.
- 4) The test performed was a viral test (as defined below); and
- 5) The test result states “POSITIVE,” SARS-CoV-2 RNA DETECTED,” “SARS-CoV-2 ANTIGEN DETECTED,” or “COVID-19 DETECTED.” A test marked “invalid” is not acceptable.

Any airline or other aircraft operator that fails to comply with this section, “Requirement for Airlines& Other Aircraft Operators,” may be subject to criminal Penalties under U.S. Law.

Requirements for Aircraft Passengers

Any aircraft passenger departing from any foreign country with a destination in the United States shall

- a) Provide an attestation to the CDC, through the airline or the other aircraft operator, of having received a negative Qualifying Test result or of the recovery from COVID-19 after previous SARS-CoV-2 infection and clearance to travel. The attestation is attached to this AIC as Attachment A. Unless otherwise permitted by law, a parent or other authorized individual should attest on behalf of a passenger aged 2 to 17 years. An authorized individual may attest on behalf of any passenger who is unable to attest on his or her behalf (e.g., by reason of physical or mental impairment).
- b) Retain a copy of the negative Qualifying Test result or Documentation of Recovery from COVID-19 in his/her possession and present it for inspection to the airline and upon request by an agent of the U.S. government or a cooperating state or local public health authority.



Belize Department of Civil Aviation

Any passenger who fails to comply with the above requirements, "Requirements for Aircraft Passengers," or who willfully gives false or misleading information to the government, may be subject to criminal penalties punishable by U.S. law.

CDC may modify their requirements by an updated publication in the Federal Register or by posting an advisory to follow at www.cdc.gov

EXEMPTIONS:

The following categories of individuals and organizations are exempt from the requirements of this AIC:

- Crew members of airlines or other aircraft operators provided that they follow the industry standard protocols for the prevention of COVID-19 as set forth in relevant Safety Alerts for Operators (SAFOs) issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- Airlines or other aircraft operators transporting passengers with COVID-19 pursuant to the CDC authorization and in accordance with CDC guidance.
- Federal law enforcement personnel while on official duty and carrying out a law enforcement function and members of the U.S. military (including aircraft operators), when traveling under competent orders- provided that the authority ordering the travel requires precautions to prevent the possible transmission of infection to others during the travel period in accordance with CDC guidance.
- Airlines or other aircraft operators granted specific waivers from the application of this order based on CDC's determination that a foreign country lacks available SARS-CoV-2 testing capacity. Such waivers may be granted based on specific request made by an airline or aircraft operator to the CDC and will be limited to 14 days unless renewed by CDC.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This AIC shall enter into effect on January 26th, 2021 and shall remain in effect until the earliest of (1) the expiration of the Secretary of Health and Human Services' declaration that COVID-19 constitutes a public health emergency; (2) the CDC Director rescinds or modifies their requirements based on specific public health or other considerations; or (3) December 31st, 2021.

ATTACHMENT A

PASSENGER DISCLOSURE AND ATTESTATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

All airlines or other aircraft operators covered by the Order must provide the following disclosure to their passengers and collect the attestation prior to embarkation.

AIRLINE AND AIRCRAFT OPERATOR DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENT:

As required by United States federal law, all airlines or other aircraft operators must confirm either a negative COVID-19 test result or recovery from COVID-19 and clearance to travel and collect a passenger attestation on behalf of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for certain passengers on aircraft departing from a foreign country and arriving in the United States.

Each individual 2 years of age or older must provide a separate attestation. Unless otherwise permitted by law, a parent or other authorized individual should attest on behalf of a passenger aged 2 to 17 years. An individual may attest on behalf of another passenger for whom the individual is authorized to submit the required information (for example, immediate family member(s), legal guardian, or travel agent), if that person is unable to attest on his or her own behalf (e.g., because of physical or mental impairment).

The information provided must be accurate and complete to the best of the individual's knowledge.

Under United States federal law, each passenger must provide this attestation. Failure to provide this attestation, or submitting false or misleading information, could result in delay of travel, denial of boarding, denial of boarding on future travel, or put the passenger or other individuals at risk of harm, including serious bodily injury or death. Any passenger who fails to comply with these requirements may be subject to criminal penalties under, among others, 42 U.S.C. § 271 and 42 C.F.R. § 71.2, in conjunction with 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559 and 3571. Willfully providing false or misleading information may lead to criminal fines and imprisonment under, among others, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Providing this information can help protect you, your friends and family, your communities, and the United States. CDC appreciates your cooperation.

PASSENGER ATTESTATION REQUIREMENT:

I [name of passenger or authorized representative] have read the disclosure pertaining to my obligation to obtain a negative pre-departure test result for COVID-19 or to having recovered from COVID-19 after previous SARS-CoV-2 infection and being cleared to travel in order to board an aircraft departing from a foreign country and arriving in the United States.

Check one of the options that applies:

I attest that I have received a negative pre-departure test result for COVID-19. The test was a viral test that was conducted on a specimen collected from me during the 3 calendar days preceding the flight's departure.

I attest that I have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 3 months (90 days), or the time period specified in current CDC guidance, after having previously tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 and have been cleared for travel by a licensed healthcare provider or public health official.

On behalf of [_____], I attest that such person has received a negative pre-departure test result for COVID-19. The test was a viral test that was conducted on a specimen collected from that person during the 3 calendar days preceding the flight's departure.

On behalf of [_____], I attest that such person has recovered from COVID-19 in the last 3 months (90 days), or the time period specified in current CDC guidance, after having previously tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 and has been cleared for travel by a licensed healthcare provider or public health official.

_____ Date

Privacy Act Statement

The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requires airlines and other aircraft operators to collect this information pursuant to 42 C.F.R. §§ 71.20 and 71.31(b), as authorized by 42 U.S.C. § 264. Providing this information is mandatory for all passengers arriving by aircraft into the United States. Failure to provide this information may prevent you from boarding the plane. Additionally, passengers will be required to attest to providing complete and accurate information, and failure to do so may lead to other consequences, including criminal penalties. CDC will use this information to help prevent the introduction, transmission, and spread of communicable diseases by performing contact tracing investigations and notifying exposed individuals and public health authorities; and for health education, treatment, prophylaxis, or other appropriate public health interventions, including the implementation of travel restrictions.

The Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. § 552a, governs the collection and use of this information. The information maintained by CDC will be covered by CDC's System of Records No. 09-20-0171, Quarantine- and Traveler-Related Activities, Including Records for Contact Tracing Investigation and Notification under 42 C.F.R. Parts 70 and 71. *See* 72 Fed. Reg. 70867 (Dec. 13, 2007), as

amended by 76 Fed. Reg. 4485 (Jan. 25, 2011) and 83 Fed. Reg. 6591 (Feb. 14, 2018). CDC will only disclose information from the system outside the CDC and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as the Privacy Act permits, including in accordance with the routine uses published for this system in the Federal Register, and as authorized by law. Such lawful purposes may include, but are not limited to, sharing identifiable information with state and local public health departments, and other cooperating authorities. CDC and cooperating authorities will retain, use, delete, or otherwise destroy the designated information in accordance with federal law and the System of Records Notice (SORN) set forth above. You may contact the system manager at dgmqpolicyoffice@cdc.gov or by mailing Policy Office, Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS H16-4, Atlanta, GA 30329, if you have questions about CDC's use of your data.