

Current Travel Guidance and Restrictions

Updated January 15, 2021

There are many issues that will affect your decision and ability to travel to the U.S., and unfortunately with the ongoing global pandemic and changes in the U.S. administration, what was true last week might be different tomorrow so it's important to stay informed with up-to-date information.

Preparing for Travel to the U.S. and Yale

- **Obtain your U.S. visa** – Most U.S. consulates have not resumed normal operations so visa services are still limited. Check with your local U.S. embassy to see if they have resumed issuing visa appointments. [The \[1\] State Department announced that consulates can waive the interview requirement for those who have a visa that has been expired by 24 months or less.](#) [2] This provision is now set to expire on 3/31/2021.
- **Be aware of the U.S. travel restrictions that are in place.** There remain restrictions on the [issuance of H-1B visas](#) [3] (Proclamation 10052), as well as travel restrictions on [individuals traveling to the U.S. from China, Iran, Brazil, Schengen countries, U.K and Ireland, and land ports of entry from Canada and Mexico.](#) [4] There are some exceptions so read this information carefully. Also, be aware that you will be subject to a travel ban if you are transiting through one of the countries from which travel to the U.S. is banned. And for some of our students and scholars there are restrictions based on more than one proclamation. For a comprehensive updated list visit [NAFSA COVID-19 Restrictions on U.S. Visas and Entry](#) [5].
- **Effective January 26, 2021, all air passengers arriving to the US from another country are required to get tested for COVID-19** no more than 3 days before their flight departs and to provide proof of the negative result or documentation of having recovered from COVID-19 to the airline before boarding the flight. This rule applies regardless of vaccination status. For more information on this requirement, see the [CDC's Frequently Asked Questions](#) [6].
- **All travelers entering the U.S. at one of the New York airports will need to complete the Traveler Health Form** [7] and present it at the port of entry. If you are traveling directly to Connecticut from the airport, you may do so; if you are planning to spend time in New York, please refer to the [New York State COVID-19 Travel Advisory website](#) [8]. If you are entering the U.S. at other locations, please check the requirements of that state.

Other resources: [Yale COVID-19 Guidance](#) [9] and [Arriving at Yale Spring 2021](#) [10].

If you have additional questions, please get in touch with your [OISS adviser](#) [11].

Source URL: <https://oiss.yale.edu/covid-19-resources/current-travel-guidance-and-restrictions>

Links:

[1] <http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news/expansion-of-interview-waiver-eligibility.html>

[2] <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/News/visas-news/expansion-of-interview-waiver-eligibility.html>

[3] <https://www.nafsa.org/regulatory-information/covid-19-restrictions-us-visas-and-entry#coronaproclamations>

[4] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/from-other-countries.html>

[5] <https://www.nafsa.org/regulatory-information/covid-19-restrictions-us-visas-and-entry>

[6] <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/testing-international-air-travelers.html>

[7] <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory#traveler-health-form>

[8] <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>

[9] <https://covid19.yale.edu/>

[10] <https://oiss.yale.edu/covid-19>

[11] <https://oiss.yale.edu/about/connect-with-oiss>

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