Physical Sciences Complex Visitor Access Policy

Background

On June 24th 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order No. 205 as a means to curtail interstate spread of COVID-19 from states with significant community spread as defined by; (1) a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents or; (2) a testing positivity rate of higher than 10% as measured over a seven-day rolling average. States meeting either criteria were deemed “designated or restricted states”. The list of restricted states is maintained on the New York State Department of Health (DOH) website. In addition, Cornell’s COVID-19 Travel and Visitor Policy dated July 16th, 2020 further restricts campus visitors to essential visitors through December 31, 2020.

University Requirements

- No individual may enter Cornell campus facilities (including residence halls) unless they are approved current students, staff, or faculty; (b) essential visitors as defined below; or (c) approved in writing by the provost, dean, vice president, or a delegate from one of those individuals, in consultation with the standing committee.
- Individuals with a need to frequently visit the Cornell campus to provide services, teaching, or other in-person consultation may be proposed for recurring approval by the provost, dean, vice president, or a delegate from one of those individuals, in consultation with the standing committee.
- Essential visitors such as food and delivery workers, construction and service providers all covered under New York state regulations are allowed.
- Individuals visiting Cornell service providers such as the veterinary hospital or clinics are permitted as set forth in applicable guidelines by those units.
- Other units whose services may involve campus access by non-Cornell students, faculty, or staff, must develop and post a unit access plan approved by the Standing Committee on Travel and Visitors.
- Long-term visitors must be approved in writing by the provost, dean, vice president, or a delegate of one of those individuals and will be subject to the daily check-in and will be expected to follow the guidance for Ithaca campus staff and faculty.
- Outdoor spaces (e.g. the trail around Beebe Lake and the Botanic Gardens) currently remain open, but Cornell’s mask and physical distancing policy must be followed.

State Requirements

Individuals traveling from restricted states must quarantine 14-days from the day of last travel within the designated state.

Quarantine Requirements:

- The affected individual must not be in public or otherwise leave the quarters identified for quarantine.
- A system for temperature and symptom monitoring must be provided to allow for individuals to complete necessary health checks.
• The affected individual must maintain separate sleeping quarters from household members as soon as fever or other symptoms develop. Such quarters must be separated by a door.
• Contact information for nearby medical facilities. This facility must be notified if the individual begins to experience symptoms that may require medical intervention.
• Spaces used for quarantine must have a separate bathroom facility with access to a sink, soap and water, paper towels. Cleaning and disinfection supplies must be provided for shared bathrooms.
• A supply of facemasks must be maintained for individuals should they become symptomatic in the course of the 14-day quarantine.
• Quarantine quarters must be secured against unauthorized access.
• Food must be delivered.
• Garbage must be bagged and left outside of quarantine space for pick-up.

If a restricted state is removed from the list prior to completion of the quarantine period, the individual is required to complete the quarantine prior to arriving on campus.

Exceptions

The 14-day quarantine requirement does not apply to individuals who spent less than 24-hours in a restricted state, visitors from non-restricted states or essential workers.

Essential workers are those defined by the Empire State Development (ESD) Essential Business list or; (2) any individual who is employed as a health care worker, first responder, or in any position within a nursing home, long-term care facility, or other congregate care setting, or an individual who is employed as an essential employee who directly interacts with the public while working, pursuant to DOH.

For purposes of research continuity, essential businesses include:

• research and laboratory services
• medical supplies and equipment manufacturers and providers
• public and private utilities, telecommunications
• chemicals, microelectronics/semi-conductors
• construction, hardware, appliance or building materials and maintenance
• trash and recycling collection, processing, and disposal
• mail and shipping services
• warehouse/distribution and fulfillment
• residential and commercial moving services

Essential workers and their employers are expected to comply with specific industry guidelines and previously issued DOH guidance regarding return to work after a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 or after the employee had close or proximate contact with a person with COVID-19. Those arriving from out-of-state must also complete the State Department of Health traveler form upon entering New York State. The form is available online here.

Additionally, essential workers should self-monitor temperature and signs of symptoms, wear a face covering when in public, maintain social distance, and clean and disinfect workspaces.
Approval for Working on site

- Visitors to research spaces must be granted prior approval from the Department chair or designee. This notification must include work location, point of contact, and expected dates of arrival and departure.
  - Individuals traveling to NYS for a period exceeding 36 hours may be subject to additional requirements outlined here.
- The Department Chair or designee will notify the facility manager or laboratory representative when such approval has been granted.
- Upon arrival, approved visitors must don a facemask and check-in with the facility manager or laboratory representative.
- The facility manager or laboratory representative will maintain a log of approved essential visitors and provide access to spaces as necessary.
- While in the facility, visitors should:
  - Maintain appropriate social distance.
  - Limit movement to those sites directly involved in work, or directly adjacent to work areas.
  - Wash hands as often as practicable using soap and water and avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
  - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue that is then discarded into a closed receptacle.
- Visitors must comply with University, facility and space requirements as relates to mask wearing, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), occupancy and disinfection of workspaces.
- To the extent possible, these individuals should also avoid extended periods in public spaces, contact with individuals not directly related to the service being performed, and congregate settings.
- Visitors who become ill during their time in the facility, must notify the facility manager or laboratory representative and immediately depart the facility. The facility manager or laboratory representative will provide contact information for the nearest point-of-care.
- The facility manager or laboratory representative will notify the Department Chair or designee and contact the building care manager to request implementation of enhanced cleaning procedures for the areas where work was conducted.

International Travel

Restriction of entry of foreign travelers was established by presidential proclamation. Foreign nationals who have been in any of the following countries during the past 14 days may not enter the United States.

- China
- Iran
- European Schengen area*
- United Kingdom
- Republic of Ireland
- Brazil
*(Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City).

Essential visitors traveling from non-restricted international locations must complete the State Department of Health traveler form and follow guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

References


