



February 26, 2021

Dear Mercy community,

Given a number of promising indicators, Mercy High School’s out-of-state travel policy has been amended as follows, effective Monday, March 1, 2021.

- This out-of-state travel policy applies to both day and overnight travel.
- Continue to notify Ms. Rizzi-Ayd of any out of-state-travel **in writing before departure**. Please send an email to mrizzi-ayd@mercyhighschool.com with student/faculty/staff name, date(s) of travel and travel location.
- Those traveling to the following states/jurisdictions—Delaware, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia—may return to campus following out-of-state travel without quarantine or testing.
- Those traveling to other states or outside of the U.S. must observe the following protocols:
 1. Quarantine for a full 10 days with Day 1 beginning the DAY AFTER return to Maryland from travel.
 - OR**
 2. Take a PCR test on Day 5 or after with Day 1 beginning the DAY AFTER return from travel. A negative test must be submitted via email to Ms. Rizzi-Ayd before returning to Mercy for school or work. See example below:

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tues.
Return to Maryland from out-of-state travel					Take PCR test			Afternoon: Negative test result submitted to Mercy	Return to campus
<i>Day 0</i>	<i>Day 1</i>	<i>Day 2</i>	<i>Day 3</i>	<i>Day 4</i>	<i>Day 5</i>	<i>Day 6</i>	<i>Day 7</i>	<i>Day 8</i>	<i>Day 9</i>

In alignment with State of Maryland guidelines, PCR testing does not apply to individuals who had a case of COVID-19 within the last 90 days and thus they must observe a 10-day quarantine after out-of-state travel.

Individuals currently quarantining due to out-of-state travel may *either* complete their 14 day quarantine or present to the school nurse a negative result from a PCR test taken on Day 5 or after in order to return to campus.

Receiving the vaccine does not exempt an individual from following the protocols outlined in this policy.

State and local health authorities continue to recommend that out-of-state travel be limited to the greatest degree possible. Observing social distancing protocols while traveling will also help reduce the spread of COVID-19. We must continue to be vigilant to keep our community safe! Thank you for noting this guidance as you make your plans.

Sincerely,

Mary Ella Franz Marion '76, P'09
Dean of Students

Mary Rizzi-Ayd, RN, BSN
School Nurse