

Archdiocese of Baltimore Travel Policy (now or during Easter Break)

Frequently Asked Questions

Does Maryland still have a travel advisory in place?

Yes. Maryland continues to have a travel health advisory in place warning individuals to limit travel to essential purposes only. Per the notice issued on December 17, 2020, the Maryland Department of Health noted the following: **Limit Travel to Essential Purposes Only and Mandatory Travel Testing.** Maryland strongly advises that travel be limited to essential purposes only.

Do students and staff still need to quarantine and be tested if they are traveling for spring break?

Yes. As of the date of this document, there is a standing Order issued by Governor Hogan, *Order of the Governor of the State Maryland Number 20-12-17-01 Authorizing Quarantine and or Testing of Travelers²*, which mandates those traveling outside of Maryland, with the exception of certain states, must quarantine pending receipt of a negative COVID test upon the individual's return to the State of Maryland prior to resuming normal activities.

Which States are exempt from the travel advisory?

Travel to the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the States of Delaware and West Virginia by Marylanders is exempt from these testing requirements.

What type of test must be secured in order for a student or staff member to be permitted to return to school?

Pursuant to Executive Order 20-12-17-01, and Health-General Article §§ 18- 601, 18-902, all Marylanders who travel outside of Maryland and individuals who travel to Maryland, shall:

- Immediately get a COVID-19 test upon arrival in Maryland or within 72 hours before travel to Maryland.
- Symptomatic travelers shall self-isolate upon arrival or are strongly encouraged to stay at their place of origin.
- Asymptomatic individuals shall self-quarantine while awaiting test results. A list of test sites can be found at <http://covidtest.maryland.gov>.

Given the Executive Order does not specifically prescribe the testing requirements, in an effort to be consistent with the Maryland Department of Health guidance for

COVID testing for schools relative to incidents of presumptive or confirmed COVID circumstances, **the Archdiocese requires the following test types:**

- **Students-must have a negative PCR test result prior to being able to return to school.**
- **Staff and Faculty- must have a parallel Rapid and PCR test. Staff and faculty can return to school with a negative Rapid pending the PCR test results. If faculty or staff should become symptomatic prior to receipt of the PCR test results, they must immediately isolate themselves.**

If a member of the staff or faculty have had both COVID vaccines, are they exempt from having to quarantine and be tested?

No. Those individuals who have received both vaccinations are not exempt from having to quarantine pending the results of a COVID test. In accordance with the guidance issued by the CDC related to those who have been vaccinated, while those individuals must not quarantine if they are a close contact under the prescribed guidance, it is stated as follows at the conclusion of that guidance:

“In addition, vaccinated persons should continue to follow **current guidance** to protect themselves and others, including all other **SARS-CoV-2 testing recommendations** and requirements, and **state, territorial, tribal, and local travel recommendations or requirements.**”