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USA Tightens International Travel Protocols & Extends Mask Mandates

Business Travel News - December 2, 2021

The White House announced this morning via a fact sheet posted on its website that the United States would strengthen testing protocols for incoming international travelers, regardless of citizenship status, vaccination status and regardless of the country of origin. Starting "early next week," according to the release, all international travelers will be required to present proof of a negative test taken within one day of travel. The current requirement designates a three-day testing window, which leaves a longer time-period for would-be travelers to contract the virus prior to travel but without developing symptoms.

The Biden administration also has extended through March 18 the federal mask mandate for air, rail and public transportation. The Transportation Security Administration will continue its implementing orders through the same date. The minimum fine for noncompliance is \$500 and increases to \$3,000 for repeat offenders.

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