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To: Professional Sports Teams
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From: New York State Department of Health

INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAMS TRAVELING OUTSIDE OF NEW YORK STATE AND CONTIGUOUS BORDER STATES

Purpose

This advisory explains how individuals traveling from noncontiguous states or territories, or from countries designated a CDC Level 2 or 3 Travel Health Advisory to New York State (NYS), who are associated with a professional sports team or league can do so safely and in accordance with the travel advisory.

Background

In response to increased rates of COVID-19 transmission in certain states within the United States and internationally, the State has issued a travel advisory to protect New Yorkers and the state's successful containment of COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order 205.2.

In accordance with Executive Order 205.2 issued by Governor Cuomo, the Department of Health (DOH) travel advisory requires all travelers coming from noncontiguous states or CDC Health Risk Level 2 or Level 3 countries to follow specific protocols for quarantine and/or testing upon arrival in New York.

Professional Sports Teams

Professional sports teams, both based in New York State (NYS) and playing sports in NYS, are expected to abide by the guidance set forth in [Interim Guidance for Professional Sports Training Facilities During the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency](#), [Interim Guidance for Professional Sports Competitions with No Fans During the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency](#), and any standards set forth in the operations manual for each league provided they are consistent with New York State guidance.

Traveling to New York State for Professional Sports Activity

Professional sports teams, and individuals associated with such teams, when traveling from noncontiguous states or countries designated a Health Risk Level 2 or 3 by the CDC to New York State for a professional sports activity (e.g., player, coach, training staff, support staff, league staff) may travel to the extent necessary to participate in the

professional sports activity, but must otherwise remain quarantined, and avoid all public places and settings, while in New York State, consistent with the Interim [Guidance](#) for Quarantine Restrictions on Travelers Arriving in New York State Following Out of State Travel. This applies to teams and athletes from New York and teams from outside New York.

Any player, coach, or staff otherwise associated with the professional sports team or league, must:

- Seek diagnostic testing for COVID-19 on the 4th day, at a minimum, after arrival in New York.
- Monitor themselves for a fever, or any other symptoms of COVID-19, wear a face covering when in public, maintain social distancing, clean and disinfect workspaces, equipment, and playing areas for a minimum of 14 days.
- Avoid extended periods in public, contact with strangers or anyone not associated with the team or league, and large congregate settings, except for the competitive activity for which they are traveling for a period of at least 14 days to the extent feasible.

Players, coaches, and any team or league staff coming to New York from a noncontiguous state or territory, or a country designated a Health Risk Level 2 or 3 by the CDC, when quarantining, must do so in single rooms at their accommodations/lodging while in New York, except for activities related to team practice, meetings, and competition.

Teams and leagues must limit the number of staff traveling to New York to only essential personnel required to allow the team to compete while maintaining all applicable health and safety standards.

This document applies to any professional athletic activity such as: baseball, basketball, professional vehicle racing (e.g, NASCAR), tennis, etc. This does not apply to amateur or collegiate activities.

For more information, please contact the NYS COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-364-3065 or consult the resources below.

Additional Resources

- [DOH COVID-19 Webpage](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Webpage](#)