MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Space-Available Travel Program Limitations Due to Coronavirus Disease 2019

Reference: (a) Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment Memorandum, “Modification and Reissuance of Space-Available Travel Program Limitations Due to Coronavirus Disease 2019” December 7, 2020

Effective immediately, this memorandum cancels reference (a) and issues Space-Available (Space-A) travel program limitations that will remain in effect until a determination is made to safely remove the Space-A limitations.

This memorandum applies to all travelers eligible under the Department of Defense Space-A travel program as defined in Department of Defense Instruction 4515.13 “Air Transportation Eligibility,” Change 5. The continuing spread of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) necessitates that we must continue to limit travel via the Space-Available Travel Program.

The following Categories remain eligible to seek Space-A travel pursuant to Table 3 of Department of Defense Instruction 4515.13 “Air Transportation Eligibility,” Change 5.

- Category I travelers (items 1 – 6)
- Category IV travelers (only items 26 and 27)
- Category VI travelers (only items 42 and 46)

All other categories of Space-A travel are ineligible for travel consideration. These limitations are necessary to preserve force readiness, limit the continuing spread of COVID-19, and preserve the health and welfare of everyone. Medical screening protocols still apply to all travelers.

Exceptions

A travel exception to the guidance contained herein may be granted in writing for compelling cases where the travel is:

(1) necessary for humanitarian purposes; or

(2) warranted due to extreme hardship.
Approval authority for these exceptions belongs to:

a. The Combatant Commander if the individual is assigned to a Combatant Command;

b. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff if the individual is assigned to the Joint Staff;

c. The Secretary of the Military Department concerned for personnel under his/her jurisdiction;

d. The Director of Administration and Management for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Defense Field Activities, and Agencies.

This authority may be delegated in writing to a level no lower than the first O-6 or civilian equivalent in the traveler’s chain of command or supervision. For travelers not assigned to a command, the approval authority is the first O-6 or civilian equivalent with operational responsibility at the travel point of origin.

Stacy A. Cummings
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition)
Performing the Duties of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment