

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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15-Mar-21

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.

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Stacy A. Cummings

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Acquisition)

Performing the Duties of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment