Frequently Asked Questions
Non-Essential Travel for Health-care Workers
(Latest updates will appear in blue)

All health-care workers are reminded that non-essential travel outside Manitoba (both international and domestic) remains subject to the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days upon your return.

The following travel is exempt from the Public Health Order:

Manitoba residents who regularly travel outside Manitoba to areas that are close to the Manitoba border – for work, to access health services or for other essential purposes, including access to their property or business, if they:

- Are not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19;
- Restrict their travel outside Manitoba to the minimum required for the purpose of their visit; and
- Limit their use of local services to the minimum required given the circumstances of the visit.

Travel

Am I able to travel outside of Manitoba?
Non-essential travel is strongly discouraged. If you travel to a location outside Manitoba, you are required to self-isolate for 14 days upon your return and will be required to contact your manager. For more information regarding restricted or non-essential travel please see the following link: https://manitoba.ca/covid19/restartmb/prs/orders/index.html

I've been fully vaccinated, and am considering a non-essential trip outside Manitoba. Am I required to isolate when I return?
Non-essential travel continues to not be recommended. For those staff who decided to travel for non-essential purposes outside Manitoba, there is no change to your requirement to self-isolate for 14 days upon your return. Please contact your manager to discuss your travel plans and their potential impact on operations.

Are health care workers who travelled out of province, departing Manitoba prior to January 29, to a destination exempt from the requirement to self-isolate upon return to Manitoba (e.g. Western Canada, the Territories, Ontario west of Terrace Bay), included within this requirement to self-isolate?

No. Individuals who departed Manitoba to travel to one of these locations (Western Canada, the Territories, and/or Ontario west of Terrace Bay) prior to the January 29 Public Health Order taking effect are not required to self-isolate upon their return to Manitoba, even if their return date falls after January 29.
Do the updated public health orders restrict individuals from allowing out of town visitors into the home?
Yes, current restrictions require you to limit visits to your residence to members of your household.

I have a child that is returning home from an out of province school. What are their requirements for isolation?
Non-essential travel is strongly discouraged; however, students returning home to their permanent family residence are able to do so. Students should take precautions while travelling.

Like other travelers, students arriving in Manitoba from locations identified in the Public Health orders are required to self-isolate for 14-days from the date of their arrival. This includes a requirement to isolate from family members.

For more information on self-isolation requirements for returning travelers please click here.

Am I required to disclose that my child has returned from home from outside of Manitoba and is staying in my home?
No. There is no requirement to disclose this information to your manager.

Will I be required to self-isolate after having my child stay with me?
No, please practice physical distancing and self-monitor for symptoms. If you develop symptoms self-isolate, contact Occupational Health Services or designate, and proceed to a COVID-19 testing site.

International Travel

What are the current restrictions for international travel?
The Federal Government continues to strongly discourage all non-essential travel outside of Canada.

When returning to Canada, proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of your flight’s scheduled departure time is required. Travellers will not be allowed to board if they have symptoms of COVID-19.

What do I need to know about returning from international travel?
All returning international flights are being rerouted to one of four airports: Montréal-Trudeau International Airport, Toronto Pearson International Airport, Calgary International Airport, and Vancouver International Airport.

Travel to Cottages and Campgrounds

Does the order apply to cottages in/near border communities?
Access to cottages in/near border communities is permitted for essential purposes only, provided you:
- Are not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19
• Restrict travel to the minimum required to the purpose of the visit
• Limit use of local services to the minimum required given the circumstances of your visit

Do not travel if you or any of your family members require medical care or have symptoms of COVID-19 and if you or anyone with you begins to feel ill or develops COVID-19 symptoms, return home immediately.

The order mentions property. Does this mean I have to own the cottage I’m visiting that’s in/near a border community?
No, you do not need to own the cottage. The exemption would also apply to family-owned or rental properties. Physical distancing must still be observed.

What about campgrounds in/near border communities?
Campgrounds are not included in the exemption. If you travel to a campground outside of Manitoba, you will be required to self-isolate for 14 days upon your return.

How far from the border is considered a border community?
If you normally travel to your cottage on a weekend, it would be considered in/near a border community.

Does travel to a cottage located in a border community for recreational purposes require 14 days of self-isolation upon return?
No. Cottagers or those owning a second property either in or outside the province in/near a border community are exempt from self-isolation orders. Cottagers should take a “leave no trace” approach and not interact with anyone on the way to or from their cottage, or while they’re at the cottage. Those going to another province should also check self-isolation requirements for entry into that province.

Travel to Northern Manitoba and Remote Communities

Can I travel to northern Manitoba or remote communities?
To view the current orders specifically for travel to northern Manitoba and remote communities visit: https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restartmb/prs/index.html#provinciallevel

What part of Manitoba is considered northern Manitoba?
Northern Manitoba means the area of Manitoba located north of the 53rd parallel and includes communities such as Thompson, Flin Flon, The Pas, Churchill, Lynn Lake and Gillam.

What is a remote community?
A remote community is one that is not connected to the provincial highway system by a year-round, all-weather road.

Vacation Planning

How will my request for vacation be assessed during the pandemic?
New requests for vacation time will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis in consideration of operational requirements. Previously scheduled vacation time will be honoured unless there is mutual agreement to amend.
Vacation plans that include out of province travel are strongly discouraged. Employees are asked to disclose their travel plans to their manager prior to their time away from the workplace. This will allow for consideration of the impact of the travel on operations and colleagues. Employees are advised to review and adhere to the current directives in place.

**Out of Province Visitors**

**Do the updated public health orders restrict individuals from allowing out of town visitors into the home?**
Yes, current restrictions require you to limit visits to your residence to members of your household.

**Returning to Work After Non-Essential Travel Outside of Manitoba**

**What happens if I travel outside Manitoba and choose not to follow Public Health advice about non-essential travel?**
You will be required to contact your manager to inform them that you have travelled outside Manitoba during your time away. Employees will be required to self-isolate for 14 days before returning to the workplace. Information is located here: [https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-guidelines-for-screening-health-care-worker.pdf](https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-guidelines-for-screening-health-care-worker.pdf).

**Will I be paid while self-isolating when I return from non-essential travel?**
This time away from the workplace for travel-related self-isolation will be considered as an unpaid leave. However, employees can use their income protection banks, stat bank, or OT bank as available to the extent that those are available.

**What happens if my position is deemed operationally required?**
Self-isolation for 14 days is required upon return, however, if your position is deemed operationally required by your manager, you may return to work earlier. Your manager will provide details. For more information visit [https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-guidelines-for-screening-health-care-worker.pdf](https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-guidelines-for-screening-health-care-worker.pdf).

**What happens if my position is not deemed operationally required?**
If your position is not deemed operationally required, your manager will instruct you to self-isolate. Please call Occupational Health Services or designate to inform them that you are doing so. A list of Occupational Health Services and designates is located here: [https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/occupational-health-contact-information.pdf](https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/occupational-health-contact-information.pdf).

Please contact Occupational Health Services or designate on the second last day of your self-isolation period (e.g. day 13 of 14) so you can be screened before your return to the workplace.

**What if I travel to another province for only one day?**
This would still be considered non-essential travel to another province and you will be required to self-isolate.