



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE
45TH SPACE WING**

5 October 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PATRICK AFB/CAPE CANAVERAL AFS

FROM: 45 SW/CC

SUBJECT: Public Health Directive #12

1. To prevent the spread or transmission of COVID-19, it is critical that we continue to **observe**, **quarantine**, **isolate**, and **reintegrate** any individual that presents a public health risk to our installations. This includes military, civilians, dependents, retirees, veterans, contractors, and any persons on the installation for any reason. The measures provided below are reasonable and necessary in order to address the public health risk posed by COVID-19. This document takes effect at 1630L on 5 October 2020 and supersedes any previous Public Health Directives on this subject.

2. In order to protect the health of everyone on Patrick AFB/Cape Canaveral AFS, the following measures are provided and are applicable to military personnel, U.S. government civilian employees, and all on-base residents (to include patrons of PAFB lodging and FamCamp) of Patrick AFB/Cape Canaveral AFS.

3. **Responsible Individual Activity.**

a. **All personnel are encouraged to follow safety protocols issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the State of Florida.**

- **Physical Distancing.** Wherever possible, all individuals should maintain a minimum of six feet of physical distance from other individuals.
- **Disciplined Personal Hygiene.** Frequently wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using >60% alcohol hand sanitizer. Avoid touching eyes/nose/mouth. No handshaking. Sneeze/cough into the crook of your elbow. No sharing food, drink, towels, or utensils.
- **Gatherings.** Off-base, personnel are highly encouraged to avoid gatherings larger than 50 people, maintain physical distancing and to wear a cloth face covering.

b. **Mandatory Prompt Reporting of Testing & Adverse Health Status to 45 MDG. Any individual tested for COVID-19, at any location, must promptly email the 45 MDG Public Health office at usaf.patrick.45sw-mdg.mbx.public-health@mail.mil (alternate contact method: (1-888-728-2873, option #5) to facilitate Public Health's effort to track the disease. Off-base resident personnel may be denied installation access until medically cleared by the Public Health Emergency Officer (PHEO). See Paragraph 8 below for details.**

c. **Additional Guidance.**

- **Mandatory Monitoring for Symptoms.** All personnel should closely monitor for COVID symptoms and refrain from coming to work on-base if you feel symptomatic. Personnel are also strongly encouraged to refrain from traveling outside their home if symptoms exist. See attachment (Unit Level Medical Screening Questionnaire) for guidance.

- **Permitted Activities.** Although state/local regulations permit the operation of a variety of businesses, it is encouraged that personnel travel outside the home only to **provide essential services** (e.g., employment), **obtain essential services** (e.g., food, water, medication, health care), and **conduct essential activities** (e.g., short-term excursions for physical and mental fitness, assisting a family member or other installation member).
- **Mission Critical Personnel.** In addition to the restrictions and guidance provided elsewhere in this directive, mission critical personnel (launch & range operations personnel, command post controllers, medical personnel, and first responders) are strongly recommended to limit travel outside the home for essential services and essential activities only, and to refrain from attending off-base, non-mission essential gatherings with greater than 25 individuals. Mission-critical military personnel attending such gatherings must wear face-coverings and practice physical distancing; civilian members and DOD contractor personnel are strongly encouraged to do so. For 10 calendar days prior to supporting mission critical activities, launch & range mission critical **military** personnel are directed to refrain from visiting higher traffic locations (e.g., on-premises dining in restaurants, non-essential shopping establishments, movie theaters) and refrain from attending off-base, non-mission essential gatherings with greater than 25 individuals. **Mission critical civilian personnel are strongly encouraged to follow the same guidelines in order to protect the entire mission critical workforce and our ability to execute the mission.** Unit commanders will determine which personnel are mission critical based on operational support requirements and enabling workforce schedules. Unit commanders/director-equivalents may institute additional restrictions based on mission requirements, but are encouraged to discuss such additional restrictions with 45 SW/JA and 45 FSS/FSCA prior to implementation.
- **Cloth Face Coverings.** Wear of a cloth face covering is very strongly recommended when traveling outside your home.
- **Local & State Regulations.** Personnel must adhere to all local and state regulations in the local area and when traveling.
- **Leave & Military Pass.**
 - **45 SW Military.** Squadron commanders/director-equivalents approve all leave for military members.
 - **45 SW Civilians.** IAW normal procedures, supervisors may approve all kinds of civilian leave.
- **Off-Duty Employment by Military Personnel is Generally Prohibited.** For 45 SW military members with previously-approved off-duty employment, employment may continue with sufficient justification and waiver from 45 SW/CC. For 45 SW military members with non-essential, off-duty employment, such employment must have been terminated NLT 13 April 2020. No waiver is required for civilian off-duty employment in an essential service. 45 SW military members may request a waiver of this measure for other reasons through command channels. Waivers for religious reasons may be requested through the Chaplain's Office. The 45 SW/CC is Approval Authority.

4. Conduct While on the Installation.

- a. **Meetings and Public Gatherings.** In all instances, proper physical distancing, wear of cloth face coverings, and sanitization protocols must be in place for all gatherings.
 - **Mission/Service Essential Gatherings.** These gatherings include change of command and promotion ceremonies as well as meetings among mission/service essential personnel, regardless of subject. Mission/service essential gatherings of more than 50 people must be approved at the

installation commander or higher level. Mission/service essential gatherings of 50 or fewer people may be approved by the squadron commander/director equivalent or higher level.

- **Non-Mission/Service-Essential (e.g., Social) Gatherings.** Non-essential gatherings are not permitted in work centers. Non-essential gatherings outside of work centers are limited to 50 or fewer people. Squadron commanders/directors will define work center areas where this limitation applies and are the approval authority for work-related non-essential gatherings outside of work centers.
 - **Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Launch viewing Protocol.** Launch viewing locations within CCAFS, except for the Deas Gate public viewing area, will be open to placard viewing effective 7 October 2020. All launch viewers must wear face coverings and follow all 45 SW Covid-19-related guidance and directions, spelled out in the current Public Health Directive. Each viewing group must attempt to maintain physical distancing of at least six feet from other groups. All launch viewers must bring their own face covering with them onto CCAFS. Any clarification questions should be directed to 45 MSG/Det 1.
- b. **Wear of Cloth Face Coverings.** At the direction of the Secretary of Defense, and upon recommendation from the CDC, to the maximum extent possible without significantly impacting mission requirements, any individual given access to the installation must wear a cloth face covering/mask when six feet of physical distancing is not possible.
- **Installation Locations.** Cloth face coverings must be worn:
 - To enter/exit all buildings and to/from work areas. When reporting to work, the mask must be worn prior to entering the building and while walking to the work area.
 - Inside certain locations: MDG clinic, Base Exchange & Commissary, Riverside Dining Facility, the Post Office, Child Development Center, Youth Center, and all customer service locations (to include the Visitor Control Center, Finance Office, Military and Civilian Personnel Offices, and Legal Office). Persons without a cloth face covering will be denied access to these locations.
 - **Civilian Employees.** For civilian employees (Appropriated Fund and Non-Appropriated Fund) conducting official business on base (regardless of location), units must first provide a cloth face covering before mandating wear. This measure became effective 9 April 2020.
 - **Exceptions. In other areas, squadron commanders and supervisors may determine locations and circumstances where six feet of physical distancing can be consistently maintained and, thus, a cloth face covering is not mandatory.** Other exceptions to this measure include: individuals whose primary residence is on PAFB/CCAFS when in that residence (except those on quarantine or isolation who must wear a cloth face covering when interacting with others), individuals in personal vehicles, children when physically in the Child Development Center (but should wear one when entering or exiting), children age two (2) and under, anyone with difficulty breathing, and those incapacitated, unconscious, or otherwise unable to remove the covering without assistance.
 - **Cloth Face Coverings.** Cloth face coverings should be secured to cover the face and nose, be functional, cleaned, and well-maintained. For uniformed military members, cloth face coverings should be conservative, professional, in keeping with dignity and respect, neutral in color/pattern, and adhere to the elements of military professional standards. Acceptable items include cotton masks, neck gaiters, balaclavas, bandanas, scarves, or other suitable coverings. Face coverings may be washed and re-worn. Lowering of the cloth face covering may be required to verify identification. Do not use Personal Protective Equipment (e.g., N95 respirators or surgical masks) as such equipment should be reserved for medical professionals.

- **Physical Distancing Still Required.** Cloth face coverings are not a substitute for physical distancing and other measures.

c. **Potential for Limited Services.** Eligible beneficiaries (to include retirees and dependents as well as veterans) may be provided access to AAFES, DECA, FSS and 45 MDG buildings and services, but in order to protect the health of everyone on the installation, additional public health/sanitation protocols and limited availability/hours may apply.

5. Commanders are authorized and accountable to temporarily restrict the movement of any individual in their organization, consistent with the definitions identified in the COVID-19 Public Health Risk Categories, signed by the 45 MDG Commander. When taking such action, commanders, or their designated representative may email the 45 MDG Public Health Office at usaf.patrick.45sw-mdg.mbx.public-health@mail.mil (alternate contact method: (1-888-728-2873, option #5 to coordinate with the PHEO, who will determine the appropriate disposition (Observe, Quarantine, Isolate, or Reintegrate).

6. Any individual who has been placed in *observation*, *quarantine*, or *isolation* is expected to remain exclusively at their residence or other appropriate domicile, when directed. The restricted individual should exercise disciplined personal hygiene, physical distancing, self-monitor, report worsening symptoms to their primary care provider, and call 9-1-1 for any medical emergencies. Commanders have the discretion to place additional restrictions on those who may have had contact with a restricted individual, but are not required to do so unless directed by the PHEO.

7. If an individual is restricted on-base or is empaneled to the 45 MDG, a competent medical authority from the 45 MDG will contact the individual to assess the public health risk and make a status determination. If the individual was diagnosed or tested off-base, the individual must email the 45 MDG Public Health Office at usaf.patrick.45sw-mdg.mbx.public-health@mail.mil (alternate contact method: (1-888-728-2873, option #5) or, outside of duty hours, call the Wing Command Post at (321) 494-7001. On-base medical restrictions can only be lifted by the 45 MDG PHEO. Individuals who do not reside on the installation may be denied access to the installation for the duration of their restricted status.

8. **Prompt Reporting of Symptoms & Testing.** Any individual experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 including, but not limited to, fever of greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, dry cough, or shortness of breath or loss of smell and taste, must contact their Primary Care Provider. If you are a beneficiary of the 45 MDG call the appointment line at 321-494-8241 during normal duty hours or the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-728-2873 outside of normal duty hours. If you are a beneficiary with COVID-19 symptoms, you are strongly encouraged to be tested on base. As noted above, any individual tested for COVID-19, at any location – to include off-base testing centers – **must report testing to Public Health** by emailing: usaf.patrick.45sw-mdg.mbx.public-health@mail.mil (alternate contact method: 1-888-728-2873, option #5) and may be denied installation access until medically cleared by the PHEO.

a. **Exceptions to Reporting of Testing.** As more COVID-19 testing is done for screening purposes, reporting of testing and denial of installation access is not required when testing is done, e.g., secondary to a surgical procedure, as a requirement for organizational participation (i.e., to coach youth sports), to fulfill travel requirements, or for the individual's peace of mind (where the individual has no symptoms and had no significant exposure). All positive test results, however, must be reported to 45 MDG Public Health.

b. **Denial of Installation Access.** Denial of installation access for off-base residents is limited to cases when:

- the individual has tested positive for COVID-19 (if a military member, Sq/CC and Gp/CC are notified; if a civilian employee, the supervisor is notified), or

- the individual is tested due to:
 - Symptoms consistent with COVID-19
 - A physician order due to suspicion of infection
 - Close, prolonged contact with an infected individual.

9. This policy will terminate when directed by the 45 SW/CC, in consultation with the PHEO. The contents of this memorandum and any related orders issued by the 45 SW/CC or PHEO are directive. Any person who refuses to obey or otherwise violates such orders during the declared public health emergency may be detained and turned over to military or civilian authorities. For military members, violations are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. For all personnel (military and civilian), violations are punishable under Titles 18 and 42 of the United States Code (USC), to include 18 USC 1382 and 42 USC 271. Additionally, any personnel who fail to adhere to this memorandum or subsequent orders may be subject to debarment (denied access to the installation).

10. We are in unprecedented times that require unprecedented measures to keep our community safe. We will defeat this threat if we are able to come together. While these measures are temporary, they are absolutely necessary to ensure the health and safety of all individuals on the installation. Thank you for doing your part to help us “flatten the curve” and protect the personnel and essential missions of Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Your tremendous efforts and sacrifices during this difficult time have been exemplary. Chief King and I are proud to serve alongside each and every one of you.



DOUGLAS A. SCHIESS
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander

Attachment: Unit Level Medical Screening Questionnaire