1. Is outgoing University-related travel restricted in any way?

The University has restricted University-related travel until further notice, with limited exceptions for travel essential to University operations through May 15, 2021. We are carefully evaluating all University-related travel, including by car, to high incidence areas outside of and within the state on a case-by-case basis.

2. My extramurally-funded research requires travel and the funding agency is allowing travel, what should I do?

Potential travel, including extramurally-funded travel, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. This evaluation will be made by the immediate supervisor. Exceptions related to extramural funding must first be approved in writing by the appropriate Principal Investigator and sponsoring agency (where applicable).

3. If a resident or student has a required away rotation, will they be allowed to travel?

Required learner travel on a limited basis for required rotations, both incoming and outgoing, is currently allowed as essential. Please consult with the appropriate Dean and refer to Out-of-State and High-Prevalence Area Rotations for House Officers and Out-of-State and High-Prevalence Area Rotations for HSC Students.

4. Are incoming University business-related visitors from out of state restricted in any way?

Incoming visitors from out of state conducting business-related activities will be accommodated on a very limited basis and only for the purpose of employment interviews. These visits cannot last more than three (3) days total, and COVID-19 safe practices must be followed.

This includes requiring all University business-related visitors (does not include students) to be asymptomatic and to have had a negative COVID-19 test (sample plus result) 72 hours before beginning travel, to self-monitor symptoms, to use masks, practice stringent personal hygiene and physical distancing during the trip. They will also be screened for symptoms each day before coming to campus.

Groups must not be larger than 10 individuals, meetings must take place in large spaces (e.g., conference rooms) and attendees must adhere to social distancing of at least 6 feet and use masks at all times.

All other incoming visitors are not allowed at this time.

5. Can I schedule future travel?

Yes, travel beyond May 15, 2021, may be scheduled; however, it may be subject to cancellation if there is a change in the NM Department of Health’s travel guidelines.
6. Is my personal travel restricted?

All HSC students, faculty, staff, and residents are advised to avoid all non-essential out-of-state travel for personal reasons. Additionally, we advise HSC community members to avoid travel to high-incidence areas within the state. We know this advice may be a hardship for some members of our community.

We understand that some faculty, staff, or students may have personal circumstances that lead to travel, and in those circumstances we ask our community members to be mindful of their responsibilities to others, to research community spread at their planned destination, and to voluntarily quarantine or self-isolate upon return.

There is also free COVID-19 testing available, and we encourage self-monitoring of symptoms to reduce the risk to others. Employees should contact Occupational Health at 505.515.8212 for additional guidance. Because travel advice and high-incidence areas change constantly, please check here for the latest information.

7. Do I have to quarantine or self-isolate when I return from out-of-state travel?

In-state travel and domestic travel in the U.S. – No quarantine requirement for Health Sciences employees.

Please contact Occupational Health at 505.515.8212 for additional guidance on travel and follow their recommendations.

8. Do I have to report out-of-state or travel to high-incidence areas within the state?

No travel reporting is required; however, all HSC community members returning from travel should contact Occupational Health at 505.515.8212 and follow their recommendations.

9. If I am unable to work from home during quarantine or self-isolation related to travel, will I be provided with leave?

Should the resulting quarantine or self-isolation period interfere with your ability to perform your duties, you may use accrued sick or annual leave to cover the period that you cannot return to campus. All UNM employees are eligible for UNM’s Emergency Paid Sick Leave option, including those working at the Health Sciences Center, and are allowed 10 days (80 hours, prorated by appointment percentage) of total paid leave to quarantine or self-isolate.

UNM Hospitals, SRMC and UNMMG have their own Human Resources systems and policies and were excluded from this leave provision, but those employees may draw from any category of accrued leave to cover their quarantine time.

10. Can my annual leave be denied based on where I am traveling?

Annual leave requests will be determined in accordance with UAP Policy 3400, § 5, as it relates to staff employees, Faculty Handbook Policy C-50 as to faculty, and/or applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Staff and faculty are not asked about the purpose for leave when they request annual leave.