



Government of Samoa

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MATAGALUEGA O LE SOIFUA MALOLOINA

SPECIAL TRAVEL ADVICE FOR TRAVELERS ENTERING SAMOA

Commencing 1st August 2022

The ongoing emergence of different COVID-19 variants **AND** other Infectious Diseases of International Concern (e.g. Monkeypox) with imminent spread to other countries including Samoa realizes the need for vigilance at our international borders. The Ministry of Health pursuant to section 29 of the Health Ordinance 1959 hereby strongly advises that:

1. All Travelers age 12 years and above including flight crew are required to be fully vaccinated before entry into Samoa. The prescribed 2 doses are vaccines pre-qualified by the World Health Organization namely AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna, Sinopharm, Sinovac, Covaxin, Novavax and Janssen-single dose.
2. A legitimate vaccine certificate is required for boarding and a hard copy must be presented at check-in and upon arrival into Samoa. Vaccine certificates in the form of electronic documents on phones or other electronic devices including email will not be accepted. **Being fully vaccinated means completion of the required prescribed doses as per vaccine used.** All passengers should have completed 2 weeks (14 days) post vaccination prior to travel. The vaccine certificate must be a Health Authority Approved Certificate/Card of country where vaccination took place and should contain the following information:
 - a. Name of Country
 - b. Name of person - should be the same as name on passport or birth certificate
 - c. National Identification/Registration number
 - d. Address of Clinic and contact details (if available)
 - e. Name of Vaccine and Batch Number
 - f. Dates of Vaccination (must show dates of vaccination including dates of booster doses if available)
 - g. Institution Stamp if available

Passengers who have not been fully vaccinated or who fail to complete the 14 days after the second dose will be denied boarding.

3. Passengers with special medical conditions that warrant exemption from COVID-19 vaccination must email the following address surveillance@health.gov.ws thirty (30) days prior to the planned travel date, attaching a written report from a registered medical officer stating reasons for exemption. The Ministry reserves the right to deny boarding if it is not satisfied with the submitted medical report.
4. **A Negative Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) - (RT-PCR, NEAR, TMA, LAMP or SDA) by Nasal Pharyngeal Swab or Saliva test is required to be taken within 48 hours of departure from originating airport for all passengers including children and infants as well as flight crew. The test result must have the testing laboratory or Clinic letterhead and stamp.**

Any results received by email or presented as Inbox are **NOT** accepted. The lab result must be presented in hard copy upon arrival in Samoa.

OR

A Supervised **NEGATIVE Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)** done within **24 hours** of departure from originating airport. The RAT must be supervised by a registered healthcare professional with a signed written report to be presented at check-in and upon arrival into Samoa.

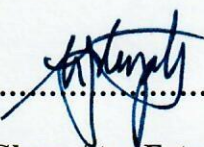
Transit passengers must repeat a supervised RAT test before checking in again if transiting for more than 24 hours. Passengers transiting directly without exiting any Airport are not required to repeat a RAT test.

5. Failure to provide a legitimate vaccination certificate and required **NEGATIVE COVID-19** test will result in **NO BOARDING or Denied Entry** into Samoa.
6. All travelers are encouraged to have booster dose(s) done before travel to Samoa.
7. **Upon Arrival into Samoa and pursuant to section 29 of the Health Ordinance 1959:**
 - a. All passengers are required to wear face masks at all times.
 - b. Passengers must submit to a Nasal pharyngeal Swab for PCR testing or Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) upon request by Health Officials at the Airport.
 - c. All passengers must fill in the arrival Health declaration form in-flight and provide a valid local phone number and email/Facebook address.
 - d. All passengers arriving in to Samoa are strongly encouraged to take precautionary and preventative measures within the first few days of arrival.
 - e. All passengers are to arrange and have a supervised Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) done at any health facility or private clinic within the first 3 days of arrival and report results to the Ministry of Health via email address surveillance@health.gov.ws Self-Testing at home is NOT acceptable.
 - f. Any passenger with a **POSITIVE** test must self/home isolate for 7 days from the date tested positive with a repeat RAT test done on day 7. If still positive extend another three days and repeat a RAT test.

ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE IN ENGLISH – THE USE OF ANY OTHER LANGUAGE WILL RESULT IN DENIED BOARDING.

TRAVELLERS AND CREW ENTERING SAMOA MUST COMPLY WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS STIPULATED IN THIS TRAVEL ADVICE. The compliance of all travellers with the conditions listed is imperative in ensuring the safety of all travellers and your families in Samoa.

The Ministry of Health appreciates your full cooperation and patience on arrival as you may experience delays. We pray for your safe travel to Samoa.

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Dr. Glenn Atoa Fatupaito
Acting Director General of Health

