

COVID-19 INTERIM DOMESTIC UNIVERSITY-RELATED TRAVEL BY VEHICLE GUIDELINES FOR FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

Effective with the start of Summer Semester 2021 Auburn University faculty, staff and students may resume domestic travel activities by following appropriate personal and community COVID-19 safety precautions.

These guidelines apply only to domestic university-related vehicle travel that will take place in passenger vehicles, including university-owned vehicles, as well as chartered ground transportation. University-related travel includes academically related travel, such as field trips, field research, meetings and conferences of academic organizations where a student is attending/participating due to their affiliation with the University, and other travel such as recreational sports club or registered student organization trips, and other travel related to programs that are not purely for academic related purposes. For purposes of these guidelines, consider whether the activity is mission critical or academic completion critical; whether the activity could be postponed, moved online, or done by phone; and the number of travelers.

The university recommends the following safety precautions for university-related domestic vehicle travel:

- **Effective August 3, 2021, there are no longer restrictions on the number of occupants in vehicles being used for university related travel.**
- Face coverings should be put on before entering the vehicle and should be worn for the duration of the trip if more than one traveler is in the vehicle. Face coverings used in the vehicle must not interfere with the ability of the driver to operate the vehicle safely. If you wear glasses, find a mask that fits closely over your nose or has a nose wire to help reduce fogging. Consider using an antifogging spray that is made for eyeglasses.
- Before traveling turn on the vehicle, open all windows and run air or heat for at least 5 minutes with outside air on, not cabin recirculated air. While traveling run air or heat and keep vents open to allow for outside air to circulate through the vehicle. Ride with windows open as much as possible to allow for outside airflow.
- Vehicles should be cleaned and disinfected regularly. At a minimum, clean commonly touched surfaces, such as door handles, in the vehicle at the beginning and end of each trip. Consider having cleaning wipes available for use.
- Travelers should wash hands often and have a process to clean hands (hand sanitizer).
- Faculty, staff, and students who are hesitant to travel in university provided transportation may use personal vehicles for travel but are strongly encouraged to follow the recommendations provided in this guidance. Use of personal vehicles is at your own risk and the vehicle owner's insurance will be in effect in the event of an accident.

For further advice, please consult the CDC's [Domestic Travel During COVID-19](#) and the guidance on [How to Protect Yourself and Others](#).

Last Updated: August 3, 2021