

# **Return to Travel Checklist**

As you and your company think about returning to travel, here are topics you'll want to consider for your travel program.

### Your Travelers

How to keep them safe, informed, and happy

- COVID-era travel is different in many ways. Educate travelers on <u>what to expect</u> so there'll be no surprises. Invite them to view or attend our <u>"Ask Me Anything"</u> webinar series with leading airlines, hotels, and car vendors to hear details straight from the sources.
- □ Let them know, when traveling, <u>what they should bring</u> and give them guidelines for <u>how to stay safe</u>.
- Decide how PPE and other protective gear should be procured. Will the company buy and distribute, or should travelers buy on their own? If so, will they be reimbursed?
- □ Come up with a policy for employees who are in a high risk category or otherwise uncomfortable with traveling. Consider a "Do Not Travel" list.
- Decide if and when you will require post travel quarantines and how those will be administered and enforced. For example, you might want to say that after traveling to [list of destinations], employees must work from home for 14 days.
- Set up a feedback loop where travelers can share the good and bad of their experiences and potentially influence policy updates. AmTrav can help with our new "How Was Your Trip" surveys.

## **Greenlighting Trips**

How to decide which trips are worth taking

- □ Consider what types of travel will be permitted. If your policy is "essential travel only", define "essential".
- □ Determine who should decide which trips meet the essential test. Consider changing (either temporarily or permanently) your pre-trip approval flow if you





want to require explicit approval from a certain individual. Your AmTrav Client Service Manager can help with that.

Have a means to verify trips are practical, given government restrictions, potential quarantines, and potential quarantines upon return. We created the <u>AmTrav Covid Resource Center</u> to help with this kind of research, but you can also reach out to our Traveler Services team.

### Safety

How to keep travelers safe while on the road

- Come up with a plan to make sure you know where your travelers are at all times. If your travelers book through a2b, we will be able to <u>track them</u>. If they book hotel stays elsewhere, we will also be able to track them if they use our <u>off-channel booking capture</u> tool.
- Decide if you want to prohibit travel to certain locations. You can add these locations to your travel policy and easily update them in a2b.
- Craft a policy to address the question, <u>what if an employee gets sick while</u> <u>traveling</u>?
- Review <u>the differences between the major airlines safety initiatives</u> and decide if you should alter your policies to favor or require certain ones.
- Consider different lodging options. Will you prefer hotels or AirBnB/private homes? Will travelers be allowed to stay with family or friends? Do you want to establish minimum property-level safety requirements? See AmTrav's <u>guide to</u> <u>COVID-era lodging</u> for more info. and ideas.
- □ Decide your policy on <u>ground transportation options</u> and whether you have preferences between rental cars, ride shares, or private car services.

#### Financial

How to manage your budget smartly

- Reconsider Basic Economy tickets, if you're not already using them, because many benefits of buying up no longer apply.
- Make sure your travelers are using unused ticket credits wherever policy. AmTrav can help you <u>take advantage of airline waivers</u>.





- □ If you have employees who have departed with unused tickets, contact your Client Service Manager so we can work to transfer those credits.
- Consider where it might make sense to relax travel policy. To minimize exposure, maybe one-stop flights that save money aren't worth it, or, with social distancing in mind, maybe you want to allow more leeway in upgrading to extra legroom seats or a higher cabin.

We're ready to help you. If you would like to walk through this together with an AmTrav expert please contact AmTrav and schedule a Return to Travel discussion with your Relationship Manager.

