



## **Commercial Travel Guidance for Virginia Businesses**

06 June 2020

As most of Virginia entered Phase Two of the “Forward Virginia” plan to reopen the Commonwealth on June 5, with Northern Virginia and the City of Richmond remaining in Phase One, the Virginia Department of Aviation offers the following guidance and recommendations for commercial air travel for work purposes:

While [Executive Order 65](#), which lays out Phase Two guidelines, mandates continued cessation of all official travel outside of Virginia by state employees, it does provide for increased flexibility for inter-state commuters and essential personnel. Workers employed by essential and non-essential businesses are allowed to travel for the purposes of work on commercial and/or private aircraft.

Commercial air carriers and the airports from which they operate remain open. With passenger traffic down as much as 95 percent, airlines have reduced the number of flights available each day. Air service by some carriers has been suspended through September. Because of these service reductions, flights to/from many destinations may be limited. Travelers should be prepared for delays, flight consolidations, or cancellations. Stay in contact with your airline for more information.

Most airlines have been requiring passengers to wear a protective face covering, and many of these airlines will provide a face mask if a passenger does not have a mask. Per [Executive Order 63](#), signed on May 26, face coverings are now mandatory at all times in public indoor settings, including airports and aircraft.

In-flight food and beverage services have been reduced or eliminated on many commercial flights.

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) now allows passengers to bring a small bottle of hand sanitizer in carry-on baggage.

The federal enforcement date for REAL ID, which was set for October 1, 2020, has been delayed to October 1, 2021. Passengers without a REAL ID will still be able to use their current license for boarding. (A valid passport remains an acceptable form of identification.)

For the Northern Virginia Region, including Dulles International and Reagan National Airports, [Executive Order 61](#), amended on June 2, allows Northern Virginia to remain in Phase One, which includes additional restrictions. Air travel to and from those airports is allowed, but be aware that other businesses and activities are subject to capacity limitations and other restrictions that may not apply to other parts of the Commonwealth. Expect to see fewer stores and other businesses open.