

CAAS Circular 2021/26

5 May 2021

**PRE-DEPARTURE COVID-19 POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (PCR) TEST
REQUIREMENT FOR ALL INBOUND PASSENGERS**

The Multi-Ministry Taskforce has been closely monitoring the global COVID-19 situation and will continue to adjust border measures to manage the risk of importation and transmission to the community.

2 With effect from 7 May 2021, 2359 hours (Singapore time), all inbound travellers are required to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours¹ before departure for Singapore and present a valid negative COVID-19 test for entry to Singapore.

3 Air operators must check for a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result before allowing such passengers to board the aircraft, regardless of whether the passenger has recovered from a past diagnosis of COVID-19. The test result memo must be from recognised laboratories that are internationally accredited or recognised by the respective governments. It must also be in English, and should state the following:

- i. the test result;
- ii. the date that the test was taken; and
- iii. **minimum of 2 personal identifiers as stated in the passport (i.e. name and either date of birth or passport number).**

¹ For example, if the test was taken on 20 May 2021, 1000hrs, the passenger must depart before 23 May 2021, 1000hrs. For ease of implementation, the departure time of the passenger is taken as the scheduled time of departure of the flight.

- 4 The requirement in paragraph 2 does not apply to:
- i. Singapore Citizens and Singapore Permanent Residents;
 - ii. travellers **aged six and below**²;
 - iii. travellers with travel history to certain countries/region³ in the **last 21 consecutive days**⁴ prior to their departure for Singapore, including those who have transited in a country/region not listed in footnote 3⁵;
 - iv. travellers transiting/transferring through Singapore, except those with travel history **within the last 21 days** to Indonesia and the Philippines;
 - v. returning travellers to Singapore on Reciprocal Green Lanes (RGLs) (*Please note that the conditions in the RGLs will prevail. i.e. if the RGL does not require a pre-departure test for returning travellers, then they will not be subjected to a pre-departure test before their return to Singapore*); and
 - vi. Business Travel Pass (previously known as “Pre-approved Business Pass”) holders, except those with travel history to Fiji, Ireland, Israel, South Africa, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and Vietnam **within the past 21 days** prior to departure for Singapore.

5 Air operators should remind passengers that if they are found to have produced false or forged COVID-19 test certificates, it will affect their ability to obtain or sponsor immigration facilities in the future.

6 Please note that the requirement to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours before departure is on top of other existing prevailing entry requirements and border health measures for all inbound passengers. For more information on Singapore’s entry requirements, please refer to the Immigration and Checkpoint Authority (ICA) website: <https://www.ica.gov.sg/covid-19>.

7 Existing Not-To-Land (NTL) policies and procedures will apply for passengers, who are denied entry into Singapore if they do not meet Singapore’s prevailing entry requirements.

8 The related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) can be found at <https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19/faqs>.

9 Information on the additional requirement for all inbound passengers will be updated in the IATA Timatic service.

10 This Circular will, **with effect from 7 May 2021, 2359 hours (Singapore time)**, supersede CAAS Circular 2021/21 dated 20 April 2021 (Pre-departure COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Test Requirement for All Inbound Passengers).

Margaret Tan
Director (Airport Operation Regulation & Aviation Security)
Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore

[no signature required]

² Age is calculated based on calendar year. For example, if passenger is entering Singapore in year of 2021, those born in the year of 2015 to 2021, are not required to present a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test to enter Singapore.

³ The current list comprises Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Hong Kong, Macao, Mainland China, New Zealand and Taiwan.

⁴ If the scheduled day of departure of the flight is D (e.g. 31 May 2021), the traveller must have remained in his/her declared point of departure from D-21 to D (i.e. 10 to 31 May 2021). The 21-day travel history requirement does not apply for negotiated travel lanes such as Air Travel Bubble and Reciprocal Green Lanes, for which the 14-day travel history requirement remains.

⁵ For example, a passenger from New Zealand, who transited in Thailand will not be required to present a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test to enter Singapore.