

## CAAS Circular 16/2022

19 March 2022

### PRE-FLIGHT MEASURES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR PASSENGERS ON FLIGHTS TO SINGAPORE

This Circular informs air operators of the further requirements specified by the Director-General of Civil Aviation (“DGCA”) pursuant to the CAAS Directive No. 1/2022 (“the Directive”) (as amended by Amendment No. 2 with effect from 1559hrs GMT 19 March 2022).

2 Pursuant to paragraph 4(b) of the Directive, the DGCA has specified that the following passengers must provide proof of having taken a pre-departure test for COVID-19:

- (a) every passenger whose travel history, in the last 7 consecutive days<sup>1</sup> prior to departure for Singapore, includes travel to any country or region classified by the Singapore Ministry of Health as a **Low-Infection Category or General Travel Category**<sup>2</sup> country or region, but not travel to any country or region classified as a Restricted Category country or region, and who intends to enter Singapore, must provide proof of having taken any COVID-19 test<sup>3</sup> specified in **Annex A**, within 2 days<sup>4</sup> prior to that departure;
- (b) every passenger whose travel history, in the last 7 consecutive days<sup>1</sup> prior to departure for Singapore, includes travel to any country or region classified by the Singapore Ministry of Health as a **Restricted Category**<sup>5</sup> country or region, and who intends to enter Singapore, must provide proof of having taken any COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (“PCR”) test specified in **Annex A**, within 2 days<sup>5</sup> prior to that departure;

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<sup>1</sup> To illustrate, if the scheduled day of departure of the flight is D (e.g. 8 March 2022), the last 7 consecutive days refer to D-7 to D (i.e. 1 March to 8 March 2022).

<sup>2</sup> The Low-Infection Category refers to those under current Category I countries/regions. The General Travel Category consolidates those under Category II, Category III and Category IV countries/regions. Please refer to <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg/shn-and-swab-summary> for the latest classification of countries/regions.

<sup>3</sup> The COVID-19 test specified in **Annex A** may be taken by means of any sampling method.

<sup>4</sup> If the pre-departure test is taken on 1 March 2022, it will be valid for departure up to 3 March 2022, 2359 hours.

<sup>5</sup> As of 19 March 2022, there are no countries/regions in the Restricted Travel Category.

3 Despite paragraph 2, the following passengers are not required to provide proof of having taken a pre-departure test for COVID-19:

- (a) a child aged 2 years and below<sup>6</sup>;
- (b) a passenger who has been exempted by a relevant Singapore government agency from the requirement of a pre-departure test<sup>7</sup>;
- (c) a transfer or transit passenger who does not seek to enter Singapore.

4 Pursuant to paragraph 4(c) of the Directive, the DGCA has specified that a passenger may provide a proof of recovery in lieu of proof of having taken a pre-departure test for COVID-19, as follows:

- (a) a fully vaccinated passenger<sup>8</sup> who provides one of the following:
  - (i) a positive result of any COVID-19 test specified in **Annex A** that –
    - (A) meets the requirements in paragraph 6(c) of the Directive; and
    - (B) is taken between 7 and 90 days before the scheduled date of departure of the flight to Singapore;
  - (ii) a discharge memo that –
    - (A) states the name of the passenger, and at least one other personal identifier such as the date of birth or passport number corresponding exactly with the information in the passport used for entry into Singapore;
    - (B) states the date of infection or the discharge date, which must be between 7 and 90 days before the scheduled date of departure for the flight to Singapore; and
    - (C) is issued by a relevant state authority or licensed medical professional;
  - (iii) a positive result of a supervised self-administered ART that is issued by a licensed medical provider in Singapore<sup>9</sup>, including Quick Test Centres (QTCs) or Combined Test Centres (CTCs)<sup>10</sup>, that –
    - (A) meets the requirements in paragraph 6(c)(iv) and 6(c)(v) of the Directive; and

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<sup>6</sup> To illustrate, the age is calculated based on calendar year. If a passenger is entering Singapore in year of 2022, those born in or after 2020, are not required to take a pre-departure test prior to departure for Singapore.

<sup>7</sup> CAAS will keep airlines informed of the sample exemption letters issued by relevant Singapore government agencies.

<sup>8</sup> This refers to a passenger who is fully vaccinated in accordance with the criteria specified on the website of the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority at <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg/health/vtsg#acceptedvaccines>.

<sup>9</sup> Overseas supervised self-administered ARTs and HealthHub statuses showing ART “self-administered (under supervision)” will not be accepted.

<sup>10</sup> Please refer to <https://www.gowhere.gov.sg/testcentre> for a list of QTCs and CTCs.

- (B) is taken between 7 and 90 days before the scheduled date of departure of the flight to Singapore;
- (b) a passenger who is unvaccinated or partially vaccinated<sup>11</sup> who provides one of the following:
  - (i) a positive result of any COVID-19 test specified in **Annex A** that –
    - (A) meets the requirements in paragraph 6(c) of the Directive; and
    - (B) is taken between 14 and 90 days before the scheduled date of departure of the flight to Singapore;
  - (ii) a discharge memo that –
    - (A) states the name of the passenger, and at least one other personal identifier such as the date of birth or passport number corresponding exactly with the information in the passport used for entry into Singapore;
    - (B) states the date of infection or the discharge date, which must be between 14 and 90 days before the scheduled date of departure for the flight to Singapore; and
    - (C) is issued by a relevant state authority or licensed medical professional;
  - (iii) a positive result of a supervised self-administered ART that is issued by a licensed medical provider in Singapore<sup>7</sup>, including QTCs or CTCs<sup>8</sup>, that –
    - (A) meets the requirements in paragraph 6(c)(iv) and 6(c)(v) of the Directive; and
    - (B) is taken between 14 and 90 days before the scheduled date of departure of the flight to Singapore;

5 The two-day period for the pre-departure test mentioned in paragraph 2 is determined as follows:

- (a) For a passenger taking a **non-stop flights** to Singapore, the period of 2 days will commence from the scheduled departure day of the flight to Singapore. For example, if the flight is scheduled to depart on 3 March 2022, the pre-departure test must be taken no earlier than 1 March 2022.
- (b) For a passenger taking a **connecting flight** to Singapore:

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<sup>11</sup> This refers to a passenger who is partially vaccinated in accordance with the criteria specified on the website of the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority at <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg/health/vtsg#acceptedvaccines>.

- (i) if the total scheduled transit duration on the ground does not exceed 24 hours, the 2-day period will commence from the scheduled departure day of the **first flight** of the journey to Singapore. For example, if the passenger's flight itinerary is LAX-NRT-SIN and his transit duration at NRT is within 24 hours, the pre-departure test must be taken within 2 days of the scheduled departure day of his flight from LAX.
- (ii) if the total scheduled transit duration on the ground exceeds 24 hours, the 2-day period will commence from the scheduled departure day of the last flight of the journey to Singapore (i.e. the flight to Singapore). For example, if the passenger's flight itinerary is LAX-NRT-HKG-SIN and the total scheduled transit duration at NRT and HKG adds up to more than 24 hours, the pre-departure test must be taken within 2 days of the scheduled departure day of the flight from HKG.

6 Pursuant to paragraph 11 of the Directive, the DGCA has specified that every air operator must:

- (a) maintain, for a minimum of four weeks, a record of each passenger's:
  - (i) name, as stated in the passport;
  - (ii) type of pre-departure test or proof of recovery;
  - (iii) date of pre-departure test or proof of recovery;
  - (iv) (if applicable) the pre-departure test result, which must be in English; and
- (b) furnish the necessary information and evidence of such records upon request by CAAS.

7 Every air operator should remind its passengers that should any be found to have produced a false or forged COVID-19 test certificate or discharge memo, it will affect the passenger's ability to obtain or sponsor immigration facilities in the future.

8 The requirement to take a pre-departure test is in addition to existing prevailing entry requirements (e.g. requirements for entry approvals) and border health measures for all inbound passengers. Air operators must also ensure that the connecting passengers meet the entry requirements of their destination country or region.

9 The requirement for air operators to conduct a basic health assessment on passengers at airline check-in has been removed. Nonetheless, air operators should determine whether to accept a passenger for boarding, who appears to have symptoms of or have a communicable disease or any other condition, which could pose a direct threat to the health or safety of other persons, in accordance with their standard operating procedures.

10 For more information on Singapore's entry requirements, please refer to the SafeTravel website (<https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg>). The related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) can be found at <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg/health/fag#pcrtest>. Air operators may also refer to the self-help checker at <https://go.gov.sg/recovered-traveller-checker> to determine if recently-recovered travellers can be exempted from the pre-departure test requirement.

11 Existing inadmissible passenger (commonly referred to as "Not-To-Land (NTL)") policies and procedures will apply for passengers denied entry into Singapore due to not meeting Singapore's prevailing entry requirements.

12 Information on the entry requirements for all inbound and transit and transfer passengers will be updated in the IATA Timatic service.

13 This Circular takes effect **from 19 March 2022, 2359 hours (Singapore time) and supersedes** CAAS Circular 2020/46 Rev 2, dated 19 August 2021 ("*Guidance on Pre-flight Measures – Basic Health Assessment of Passengers*"), and CAAS Circular 08/2022, dated 16 February 2022 ("*Pre-flight Measures and Requirements for Passengers on Flights to Singapore*"). To avoid doubt, the requirements as described in this Circular are applicable to every passenger whose scheduled time of arrival in Singapore is after 19 March 2022, 2359 hours (Singapore time).

Margaret Tan  
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[no signature required]

## **Annex A**

Below is a non-exhaustive list of accepted COVID-19 tests based on guidelines by the Singapore Ministry of Health (MOH).

<b>Test Type</b>	<b>Sample Source</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Modality</b>
PCR test	All	Allowed, all sample types	Professionally administered <sup>12</sup>
RT-PCR Test			
NA-PCR Test			
NAAT PCR Test			
SARS Cov 2 PCR Test			
Rapid PCR test			
LAMP Test			
NAAT Test (all types)			
SARS Cov 2 Rapid Test			Professionally administered <u>or</u> self-administered and remotely supervised by an approved ART provider in Singapore <sup>13</sup>
Antigen			

**Note:** A serology test by blood sample is not an accepted COVID-19 test.

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<sup>12</sup> The COVID-19 test has to be performed by a trained professional (e.g. a medical professional or a Government-recognised trained professional).

<sup>13</sup> The self-administered and remotely supervised option is only available to Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents and Long-Term Pass Holders situated in the United States, Australia, the member states of the European Union, India and the Middle East (United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, Kuwait, Yemen, Israel, Jordan, Iran, Egypt).