Spring break for the 2020-2021 school year is fast approaching. During this time of heightened awareness due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we remain mindful of the health and safety of all Baltimore County Public Schools students and staff. As students and staff prepare for spring break and subsequently, the return to schools and central offices from spring break, please be reminded of the following information.

If Traveling During Spring Break:
Check the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website](https://www.cdc.gov) and Maryland Governor Larry Hogan’s [executive order](https://www.maryland.gov) and [companion health directives](https://www.maryland.gov) regarding travel for any restrictions going to or coming from your destination.

Travel restrictions are driven by the prevalence of COVID-19 in specific destinations, as well as the emergence of variant strains. Consequently, the guidance changes. Information on the CDC Web site specifically states:

> Travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. The CDC recommends that you do not travel at this time. Delay travel and stay home to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

Persons planning travel must continue to monitor guidance from the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, as well as directives from the [Governor of Maryland](https://www.governor.maryland.gov), as related to general travel guidelines.

Students – Current Guidelines (as of 3/16/2021):
- Quarantine requirements have been lifted for the state of Maryland.
- A Maryland Department of Health travel advisory remains in place, and Marylanders continue to be encouraged to get tested for COVID-19 upon their return from out-of-state travel.
- Follow all [state and local](https://www.maryland.gov) recommendations or requirements before and after travel.

Also, take these actions after you return from travel to protect others from getting COVID-19:
- Avoid crowds and [stay at least 6 feet/2 meters](https://www.maryland.gov) (about 2 arm lengths) from anyone who did not travel with you. It is important to do this everywhere — both indoors and outdoors.
- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth when in public settings. [Masks are required](https://www.maryland.gov) on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.
- If there are people in the household who did not travel with you, wear a mask and ask everyone in the household to wear masks in shared spaces inside your home for 14 days after travel.
- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid being around people who are at [increased risk for severe illness](https://www.maryland.gov).
Reminders about reporting procedures for students impacted by COVID:

- If it is believed that a student has been exposed to COVID-19, students should:
  - Stay home from school.
  - Report the exposure to the school nurse. The school nurse will assist in determining whether quarantine is needed and if so, the length of the quarantine.
  - The student may sign-in to virtual learning for the duration of the quarantine.

- If a student tests positive for COVID-19, students should:
  - Stay home from school.
  - Report the positive test result to the school nurse. The school nurse will assist in determining the length of the isolation period.
  - The student may sign into virtual learning during the isolation period, if they feel well enough.

- For COVID-related absences, families can work with their child’s school to collect work and assignments.