

CDC screening for Wuhan coronavirus at certain airports — Update #2

January 21, 2020

All flight attendants

On January 17, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced the start of screening for the coronavirus for passengers arriving into the United States from Wuhan, China (WUH). Passengers arriving from Wuhan, China will be screened at JFK, LAX, SFO, ORD and ATL. Note these locations and the number of airports could change based on updated guidance from the CDC.

American Airlines does not serve Wuhan, China, and we only have a very limited number of customers who connect on us from there. Despite that, we want to be sure you have the information you need.

Here's what you should know:

- Based on current information, **the CDC has determined the novel coronavirus presents a low risk to the American public**; however, they are taking proactive preparedness precautions. The CDC does not currently have a travel restriction to WUH.
- To keep this in perspective, **influenza virus (aka “the flu”) has affected far more people than the Wuhan coronavirus.** The CDC estimates the flu has sickened more than 13 million people in the US this season. The coronavirus is a family of viruses that typically affect the respiratory tract of humans. It is commonly associated with the common cold and more seriously, pneumonia.
- **And just like you should do each year during flu season, you can take normal precautions like** washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and using alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water aren't available. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth to prevent germs from entering your body. If you sneeze or cough, use a tissue to keep others from getting sick.
- **We are and will remain in close contact with the Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), CDC and public health officials,** and will coordinate with them on any required health- and safety- related measures.
- **Travelers originating from WUH may undergo a health screening,** including having their temperature taken and filling out a symptom questionnaire.

Here's what we're doing to help:

Beginning Jan. 23, all departures to Shanghai, China (PVG), Beijing, China (PEK) and Hong Kong (HKG) will be provisioned with additional hand sanitizer wipes in the Flight Attendant Service kit. Supply levels will be monitored in both the U.S. and in PEK/PVG/HKG and replenished if needed.

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