



# Member Update

## Update on COVID-19 Protocols

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On April 12, 2024, President Biden issued an Executive Order on COVID-19 and Public Health Preparedness and Response. This Executive Order revoked Executive Order 13910 (Preventing Hoarding of Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19), Executive Order 13991 of January 20, 2021 (Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing), and Executive Order 13998 of January 21, 2021 (Promoting COVID-19 Safety in Domestic and International Travel).

As a result of the revocation of these COVID related Executive Orders, the White House's Safer Federal Workforce Task Force, which was responsible for issuing COVID related direction to Federal agencies was terminated. Responsibility for the issuance of guidance was then shifted to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

On April 12, 2024, OPM disseminated a memorandum to all Federal agencies canceling most of the COVID related requirements, including mask requirements, and time off to assist family members with obtaining a COVID vaccine.

As a result of these changes, the FAA provided notice to NATCA of its intent to cancel all COVID-related Policy Bulletins, except for Policy Bulletin (PB) #124, Time Used for Obtaining a COVID-19 Vaccination. This PB provides guidance regarding time used by bargaining unit employees (BUEs) to obtain COVID-19 vaccinations or boosters.

We have concluded the required negotiations that addresses these changes.

We have agreed to the updated [PB#124](#) and the associated [PB#124 Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#) that continues to provide the following to NATCA represented Bargaining Unit Employees:

1. Subject to staffing and workload:
  - Up to four (4) hours of excused absence to obtain the initial dose of a COVID-19 vaccination and second dose, if part of a two-dose

- series.
  - Up to four (4) hours of excused absence to obtain booster dose(s) of a COVID-19 vaccination.
2. For telework-eligible employees, absent an emergency or special circumstance:
- Up to four (4) hours of excused absence to obtain the initial dose of a COVID-19 vaccination and second dose, if part of a two-dose series.
  - Up to four (4) hours of excused absence to obtain booster dose(s) of a COVID-19 vaccination.

If a request for excused absence or telework for telework eligible employees is denied, the Agency will provide a date by which the request shall be granted. The approved date shall not be more than seven (7) days from the requested date.

3. NATCA represented employees with a medical certificate or medical clearance who are required to observe a 48-hour "Do Not Fly"/do not perform safety-sensitive duties interval after each dose of the vaccine will be afforded two (2) workdays of excused absence after receiving each dose of a COVID-19 vaccination/booster, if otherwise scheduled to work and approved in advance. These employees are not required to experience an adverse reaction to the vaccine/booster to receive this time.

All other provisions of PB#124 are no longer applicable such as excused absence to accompany a family member to obtain each dose of a COVID-19 vaccination, and excused absence due to an adverse reaction following a COVID-19 vaccination or booster.

The Agency has cancelled the following Policy Bulletins:

- PB #120, Reducing Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 when Entering any Facility
- PB #126, Returning to the Workplace After a Confirmed, Presumed, or Suspected Case of COVID-19
- PB #132, COVID-19 Testing Program

Accordingly, we have agreed to sunset the MOUs associated with PB#120, PB#126, PB#132, and the Use of Face Masks, effective immediately. Please note that this cancellation does not apply to employees already on excused absence pursuant to the MOU for PB #120.

**With the sunset of the above PBs/MOUs all provisions associated with the PBs/MOUs are no longer applicable such as mask requirements, social distance requirements, wellness checklist requirements, and excused absence to seek or await COVID-19-related test results.**

Members with questions should contact their regional leadership for assistance.

In Solidarity,

[Visit our Website](#)



NATCA | 1325 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20005 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)