

# What's New in 2023-2024 for ASC Employees

## PRE-DEPLOYMENT ZOOM MEETINGS

About a month before your deployment, you will be invited to join a zoom meeting with ASC leadership, medical and travel teams. This is a means to disseminate information and is a forum for questions. Participation is optional but highly recommended.

## COVID

- To McMurdo and South Pole, expect to leave your AOD up to five days before your Ice date, though this is subject to change.
- To Palmer Station and the vessels, expect to leave your AOD up to seven days before boarding the ship, though this is subject to change.
- This extra day allows for COVID testing and is expected to be effective throughout the 23-24 season.
- Chilean entry requirements with regard to COVID are subject to change at any time, but we expect them to be relatively relaxed this season.
- Vaccines: Yes, you still need to be fully-vaccinated against COVID.
- Bring a record of your COVID vaccination(s) when you travel. It should be carried with your passport.
- COVID is still a risk. Please continue to practice safe COVID measures, especially as deployment approaches.

## LATAM: 1 PIECE OF LUGGAGE

- LATAM has changed its international baggage allowance from two pieces of checked baggage to one. This is worldwide and applies to everyone, including USAP passengers.
- Expect to pay at check-in for the second bag. Both ways, southbound and northbound. Reimbursable.

## NZ TRAVELLER'S DECLARATION

- The NZ Traveller's Declaration, previously required for COVID but suspended, is back and revamped.
- Its new purpose is to replace the paper Passenger Arrival Card you used to fill out on the plane.
- ASC will send instructions on how to apply with the visa letter, emailed prior to deployment.

*Please keep checking email (spam too) as your deployment approaches.*

