



WHAT'S NEW IN 2022-2023 for Grantees and Technical Events

A Normal Season?

- ASC plans on booking regularly-scheduled commercial airlines to Auckland/Christchurch and Santiago/Punta Arenas for the upcoming season.
- Vaccines: Yes, you still need to be fully-vaccinated against COVID and carry proof with you.
- NZ Visas: You won't have to apply for a NZ visa yourself anymore, the USAP is going back to 12-month visa letters.
- Chilean entrance requirements: These change constantly, stay tuned.
- Personal travel en route to Antarctica is not allowed this season.

New Zealand Entry Requirements

New Zealand entrance requirements are subject to change based on government requirements and COVID conditions. As of this writing, New Zealand requires three items to enter the country. More information on each appears below.

- Current, valid passport
- 12-month visa letter
- NZeTA

Chilean Entry Requirements

Chilean entrance requirements change constantly. ASC will coordinate the specifics with you before you travel. As of this writing ...

- A Salvoconducto is no longer required.
- A Traveler's Affidavit (c19 form) is still required, prepared less than 48 hours before arrival.
- A Mobility Pass might or might not be required, but you need a Mobility Pass *account* to obtain a Traveler's Affidavit.
- You will need to carry proof of a health insurance policy that provides coverage for COVID-19 and related health issues while in Chile, with minimum coverage of USD \$30,000. Contact your insurance carrier or HR department for assistance.

12-Month Visa Letter / New Zealand Visas

- This season, the USAP will issue 12-month visa letters. Those of you who deployed before COVID will remember them.
- It is not a visa. It is a letter to NZ Immigration that identifies you as a USAP participant. Upon arrival in Auckland, you are granted a 12-month visa instead of the 3 months typically awarded to US citizens.
- This is a special privilege granted to USAP participants.
- So, if you are a US citizen, you will not need to apply for a NZ visa yourself this season.
- Citizens of other countries should check NZ entry requirements and, if needed, obtain a visa before travel commences.



NZeTAs

US citizens traveling to NZ need a New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) and International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL).

- This was a requirement before COVID and has recently been reinstated.
- NZ and Australian citizens are exempt.
- It is not a visa. It is similar to the entrance fees charged by many countries. The purpose of the NZeTA is enhanced security and reduced immigration risks. The purpose of the IVL is sustainable tourism and conservation.
- ASC will obtain the NZeTA/IVL on your behalf, at no cost to you, IF ...
 - You hold a valid passport from the US or one of the other 60 visa-waiver countries *and* ...
 - Submit it to ASC Travel a minimum of six weeks before deploying. (A list of visa-waiver countries can be found at www.nzetavisawaiver.com.)
- You will see an email from New Zealand eTA (info@info.newzealand-etavisa.com) when your NZeTA/IVL is successfully processed. It is attached electronically to your passport, there is no physical copy, and it will be visible to the airlines when you check in.
- If you are not a US citizen and need a visa to enter NZ, the NZeTA is included with your visa.

Travel in a Post-COVID World

- Commercial flight schedules within the US are not back to normal yet.
 - Expect longer, less direct routing, especially if you live in a remote area.
 - Be prepared to fly from a major US international airport.
 - Increased demand means fewer seats and fuller flights.
- Carry your original vaccination card with your passport, and bring extra copies.
- COVID is still a risk. Please continue to practice safe COVID measures, especially as deployment approaches.
- The COVID situation might worsen while you are on the Ice, which might necessarily restrict your post-deployment personal travel.

Return Forms ASAP

- The USAP must coordinate all deployments with New Zealand and Chile well in advance. ASC must have your Deployment Packet forms *with a valid passport* six weeks before travel commences.
- For the same reason, alternates are also encouraged to submit all forms as quickly as possible.



We ask for your patience and flexibility as COVID continues to impact the USAP. Please keep checking email (spam too) as your deployment approaches. If deployment requirements change, ASC will contact you.

