

# 2020-2021 Antarctica Deployment Packet for Grantees and Technical Events

Please review this Deployment Packet carefully. It includes information you need to know before you get to the Ice and the forms you'll need to fill out and mail or fax to ASC.



**Antarctic Support Contract**  
7400 S. Tucson Way  
Centennial, CO 80112-3938  
800-688-8606/303-790-8606

Travel:

800-688-8606 x33202  
303-790-8606 x33202  
fax: 303-705-0742  
email: [deploy@usap.gov](mailto:deploy@usap.gov)

Medical - UTMB:

855-300-9704  
fax: 409-772-3600  
email: [medical@usap.gov](mailto:medical@usap.gov)

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**Document #**

TL-GDE-0006  
TL-GDE-0008  
TL-GDE-0009  
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TL-GDE-0017  
TL-FRM-0091  
TL-FRM-0097  
TL-FRM-0089  
TL-FRM-0092  
TL-GDE-0020

**\*Please complete and return to:**

**ASC Travel, 7400 S. Tucson Way, Centennial, CO 80112-3938  
or fax to 303-705-0742**

- 1) Trip Details (TL-FRM-0091)
- 2) Passport Details (TL-FRM-0097)
- 3) Extreme Cold Weather Clothing Sizes (TL-FRM-0089)
- 4) Antarctic Lodging Request Worksheet (TL-FRM-0092)

*USAP records are maintained in accordance with NSF Privacy Act Regulations.*





# WHAT'S NEW IN 2020-2021 for Grantees and Technical Events

## Coronavirus

The National Science Foundation is committed to keeping Antarctica free of COVID-19. Please be patient and flexible as plans for the 2020-2021 season are finalized.

- Commercial flight schedules 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 U.S. international airport.
- Masks are required on all flights.
- ASC will not issue tickets from an international AOD.
- Expect to quarantine in Christchurch or Punta Arenas for a minimum of 14 days, until your Ice flight or until the ship departs.
- New passports are taking much longer, so apply soonest.
- Passport renewals are taking longer too. If your passport expires within 3 months after your return, renew it NOW.
- The only redeployment option is FAA, First Available Air.

## Major Airports

Reduced and cancelled domestic routings make it difficult for ASC Travel to find flights from smaller, regional airports, though every effort will be made to ticket you from your requested AOD. Expect to depart from a major U.S. international airport near your home.

## Airline Mask Policy

Masks are required to board all flights. Any passenger that does not comply will be denied boarding.

Passengers are required to wear a mask for the duration of the flight except when eating or drinking.

## Participants Living Abroad

All USAP participants currently living at an international AOD, must arrive and remain within the U.S. and quarantine in place according to local guidelines **prior to their scheduled departure date from their U.S. AOD for deployment to Antarctica**. All incurred air travel, ground transport and accommodation costs from their international AOD to a U.S. location is the responsibility of the traveler. ASC is responsible for arranging and paying for onward travel from the U.S. AOD to Christchurch, N.Z. or Punta Arenas, Chile.

This requirement applies to 2020-2021 only and is due to COVID-19. Please contact your Science Implementer if you have questions.



## Passport Expiration

ASC's airline partners normally require a passport to be valid for 6 months after return. Passport renewals are taking much longer because of COVID-19, so for now they require only 3 months.

- If your passport is going to expire within 3 months of your return, renew it now.
- If your passport is going to expire within 6 months of your return, do not attempt to renew it.

Please note that this is an airline requirement, not an ASC requirement. The 3-month requirement is an exception for this season only.

## Seating Assignments

Increasingly, airlines are restricting the number of seats that can be pre-assigned and for that reason, ASC Travel no longer has the ability to pre-select your seat when your ticket is purchased. More often than not, you'll need to wait until you check in to select a seat, especially on international flights.

## Implied Consent to Apply for NZeTA/IVL

By submitting the Passport Details form in this packet (TL-FRM-0097), you are giving implied consent for ASC to apply for a New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) and an International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL) on your behalf. (This was a new requirement last season, if you remember.) The passport form has been modified to reflect this.

This affects southbound travelers to McMurdo or the South Pole who travel through Christchurch. It does not affect travelers to Palmer Station or the vessels who travel via Chile. Self-tickers must obtain their own NZeTA/IVL. Foreign nationals who must obtain a visa to travel to New Zealand must still do so.

## No Personal Travel

There will be no southbound or northbound personal travel this season because of COVID-19's severe impact on travel worldwide. Due to restrictions imposed by the governments of New Zealand and Chile, everyone will return home FAA.

### FAA (First Available Air)

You go directly home and are booked on the first available flight to your AOD. If your flight off the Ice is delayed or the ship returns late to port, hotels and flights are rebooked at no cost to you. Baggage fees are reimbursable.

- No routing changes
- No date changes
- No layovers, domestic or international
- No residual value to the ticket



# USAP DEPLOYMENT INFORMATION

## for Grantees and Technical Events

- Please check regularly for USAP emails. Check spam folders too.
- Passports must be valid for three months *after* your return (for this season only), undamaged beyond normal wear and tear, with a blank page for each country to be visited. Please take the time to check it now. Airline carriers will not allow you to board, and some countries will not allow entry, if these requirements are not met.
- Don't wait to apply for or renew your passport. ASC Travel needs the new passport details a minimum of two weeks before travel commences; your deployment depends on it.
- Check the expiration of your ATM and credit cards, too. Palmer Station is cashless.
- If you do not possess a U.S. passport, check entry requirements with the consulate of the countries to be transited/visited. Allow plenty of time; you must obtain the necessary visas and provide a copy to ASC Travel in advance of the 21 day ticketing deadline. It is YOUR responsibility to obtain the necessary visas. **Failure to do so could delay or even prevent your deployment.**
- Please fill out the forms in this packet and return them within eight weeks, or ASAP if your deployment date is sooner than that. (All candidates please, including alternates.) Do not wait until you physically qualify. You must submit travel paperwork and successfully physically qualify before tickets can be purchased; the goal is to ticket 21 days in advance. Do not return forms via email; fax and U.S. Mail are more secure.
- ASC Travel books your tickets based on the information you provide on the *Trip Details* form in this packet. Be sure ASC has your current contact info! There will be no opportunity to review your itinerary and changes might not be possible, so please be accurate. Also ...

The name on your ticket *must* match your passport and if it does not, the airlines will stop you at check-in. "Name exactly as it appears on passport" means exactly that.

- Expect to depart from a major U.S. international airport and return to the same airport.
- Once you submit your paperwork, you cannot change your Airport of Departure (AOD).
- Keep copies of everything in case anything is lost in transit.
- Ice dates are determined by your PI and changes must be coordinated through your ASC Science Implementer. Be prepared to travel on weekends and maybe holidays. ASC Travel is unable to change your Ice dates, so please do not ask them.
- All travel arrangements are made in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and in the best interest of the U.S. Government.
- Review airline baggage policies before departure for prohibited items and baggage dimension/weight, especially if traveling on more than one airline. Be prepared to pay baggage fees at check-in and if/when you change carriers. But regardless of what the airline website states ...
- **ASC allows two normal-size 50lb/23kg checked bags on commercial flights to New Zealand and Chile.** If you travel within these allowances and are still charged baggage fees, you may expense them with receipts. However, charges for oversize bags, that is, any bag larger than 62 inches (158 cm) overall (length + width + height), are not reimbursable.
- On the flight between Christchurch and McMurdo, the baggage allowance is 85lb/38.5kg for all participants, strictly enforced. Any extra must be pre-approved.

Save room for about 10lbs of extra Extreme Cold Weather gear. The number of bags is not limited but the maximum weight for a single piece is 70lb/32kg. Hand carry is limited to 15 pounds that must fit into a standard airline sizing box.

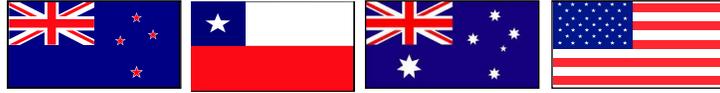
On board the vessels, there are no weight restrictions but space is limited.



- For cargo, that is, items not carried as personal baggage, shipping by sea is the preferred method of transport. Make every effort to allow sufficient time for shipment by sea to the Ice. Work with your ASC Science Implementer.
- Increasingly, airlines are restricting the number of seats that can be pre-assigned and for that reason, ASC Travel does not have the ability to pre-select your seat when your ticket is purchased. More often than not, you'll need to wait until check in to select a seat. Do not pay money or use frequent flier miles to change or upgrade your ticket, or any part of your ticket. If you do, ASC loses control of the ticket and ASC Travel is unable to assist with travel issues en route or during redeployment and all changes en route and at redeployment become your financial responsibility, with no reimbursement.
- Travel documents are emailed after you return the forms in this packet, about a month before deployment. These include a 12-month visa letter for New Zealand or a USAP participation letter for Chile, but *not* your ticket which is emailed separately.
- Tickets are e-tickets. Your final itinerary is emailed 14-21 days before deployment; you'll want to print it and bring it with you. Please check your email (including spam folders) frequently as deployment approaches.
- ASC normally issues one-way tickets. Return tickets are purchased upon redeployment.
- Once you're ticketed, further details about your time in New Zealand or Chile (hotel, ECW, etc.) will be emailed from the Christchurch or Punta Arenas Travel office. Your hotel room is reserved by ASC but not paid for; you are responsible for settling the bill at checkout.
- In Christchurch, shuttles between the airport, hotel and Antarctic Centre are pre-arranged with Super Shuttle but not pre-paid. Payment (about \$NZ12 per trip) is on board with \$NZ or credit card; cash is preferred. Please contact the Christchurch Travel office if you wish to make other arrangements.
- For other information about life on the Ice, consult the online [USAP Participant Guide](#). For example:
  - Bring (extra) sunglasses.
  - Bed linens are provided but not towels.
  - No skyiping, no drones without approval from NSF.
- If there are changes to your medical or dental health after you physically qualify, you *must* notify [medical@usap.gov](mailto:medical@usap.gov) before you deploy.
- All wintering females of child-bearing age are screened for pregnancy one to two weeks before station close. Pregnancy is a "Not Physically Qualified" condition for Antarctic deployment.
- Redeployments are processed on the Ice.

**ASC Travel**  
**7400 South Tucson Way**  
**Centennial, CO 80112**  
**phone: 800-688-8606 x33202 or 303-790-8606 x33202**  
**fax: 303-705-0742**





## CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION

### PASSPORTS

Regardless of nationality, your passport must be valid for three months after your return. (The requirement is normally six months but ASC's airline partners have made an exception for this season only.)

### VISAS – U.S. Citizens

U.S. Citizens are granted visas at the port of entry for New Zealand and Chile. It is not necessary to obtain a visa before travel commences.

### VISAS – non U.S. Citizens

If you do not possess a U.S. passport, the U.S. Antarctic Program does not, and cannot, provide advice about obtaining visas. Check entry requirements with the consulate of the countries to be transited/visited. Any necessary visas should be obtained *at least eight weeks before deployment*. **Failure to do so could delay or even prevent your deployment.**

For Australia and New Zealand, request a visitor's visa.

For Chile, request a multiple-entry tourist visa. As far as Customs and Immigration is concerned, you will be entering and departing Chile twice.

If you need a letter identifying you as a USAP participant in order to obtain a visa, please contact ASC Travel.



### New Zealand

All participants receive a letter that identifies them as a USAP participant, to whom New Zealand grants an extended visitor visa valid for 12 months. The 12 months start the day you arrive in New Zealand and Ice time is included in your New Zealand "trip."

USAP participants require an Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) and an International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL) to enter New Zealand. ASC will obtain these on your behalf, but only if 1) you are a citizen of the United States or one of the 60 countries that do not require a visa to New Zealand, 2) ASC Travel purchases your ticket, and 3) you have a valid passport in your possession and have submitted the passport details to ASC Travel a minimum of two weeks before travel commences.

Note: The NZeTA/IVL does not affect citizens of non-waiver countries that require a visa to enter New Zealand. If you needed a visa before, you still need a visa.

If you're deployed longer than 12 months, you'll need to email [ChristchurchApplications@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:ChristchurchApplications@mbie.govt.nz) and obtain a three-month extension *before* you leave the Ice.

### High Value Goods

If you plan on carrying any single item worth more than US \$1000, excluding personal items such as laptops and cameras, please indicate that on the *Trip Details* form in this packet.

### Tobacco Products

You are entitled to bring the following quantities of tobacco into New Zealand duty-free. Anything more is subject to Customs duty and goods and services tax (GST). These restrictions do not apply to electronic cigarettes.

- 50 cigarettes, or
- 50 grams of cigars or loose tobacco, or
- A mixture of all three weighing not more than 50 grams.

### Websites

New Zealand Customs home page: [www.customs.govt.nz](http://www.customs.govt.nz)

Visas: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas>

Duties and allowances: <https://www.customs.govt.nz/personal/duty-and-gst/whats-my-duty-estimator>



Prohibited and restricted items: <http://www.customs.govt.nz/features/prohibited/imports/Pages/default.aspx>  
NZeTAs and IVLs: <https://www.etanewzealand.com/>



## Chile

U.S. citizens with a valid passport can enter Chile for up to 90 days on a tourist visa, reset at each port of entry.

### Websites

Visas (unofficial): <http://chile.travisa.com/Common/TVSVisaInstructions.aspx?countryid=c>



## Australia

U.S. citizens transiting through Sydney do not need a visa, however, you must stay inside the transfer area of the international terminal. “Transiting” is defined as changing flights/traveling through the airport for less than eight hours. Leaving the terminal is a violation of Australian law.

A scheduled layover in Sydney longer than eight hours requires an electronic visitor’s visa (ETA subclass 601). Passengers with ETAs *are* allowed to leave the terminal. If ASC Travel purchases your ticket and your passport is ETA-eligible, an ETA will be purchased about a week before your deployment and attached electronically to your passport. Participants from ETA-ineligible countries should apply for a visitor’s visa at least eight weeks before deployment. If you are self-ticketing, you’ll need to purchase the visa yourself.

When unscheduled flight delays create a layover longer than eight hours, the airline generates an ETA for you before you land. If you are delayed through your own fault, be prepared to purchase the ETA yourself.

Sea travel also requires a Maritime Crew Visa (MCV subclass 988). If you’re boarding a ship, the MCV must be obtained before you arrive in Australia, and the application can take up to 30 days. ASC Travel can assist.

### Websites

Australian Home Affairs home page: <http://www.customs.gov.au/>

Visas: <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa>

Electronic Visitor’s Visa (ETA subclass 601): <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/electronic-travel-authority-601>

Maritime visas (MCV subclass 988): <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/maritime-crew-988>

Duties and allowances: <https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/duty-free>



## United States

### ESTA

IF you do not possess a U.S. passport, and:

- IF your travel originates in a foreign country (excluding Canada), **and**
- IF you are transiting through the U.S. en route to Antarctica,

you must register with ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) at <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/> before you leave home. This is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and applies even if you are only in the U.S. to connect to another flight.

From the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website:

“If a traveler is only planning to transit through the United States en route to another country, when he or she completes the ESTA application, the traveler should enter the words "In Transit" and his or her final destination in the address lines under the heading ‘Address While In The United States.’”

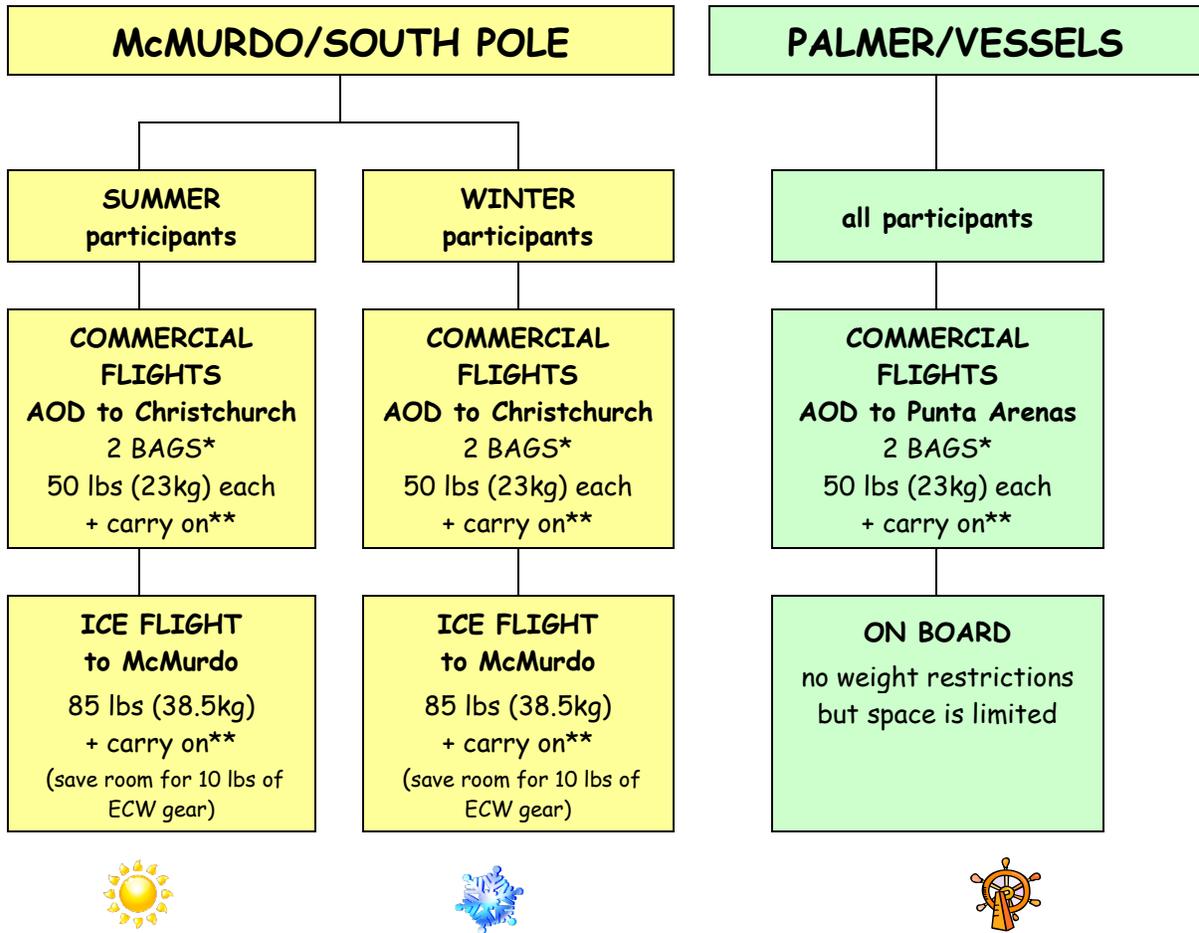
*Information on this page is subject to change with little notice due to COVID-19.*



# ASC BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

If your luggage is within the ASC baggage allowance, you should not have to pay baggage fees on United or American Airlines. Be prepared to pay baggage fees on other airlines. If you travel within these allowances and are still charged baggage fees, ASC will reimburse *with receipts*. Oversize bags such as hockey bags\* are not reimbursable.

Ice flight allowances are strictly enforced; excess baggage must be pre-approved.



There are weight and balance concerns on all flights to the Ice. The USAP reserves the right to bump personal baggage in order to meet safety and cargo requirements.

\*any bag larger than 62 inches (158 cm) overall (length + width + height) is considered oversize and is subject to extra (non-reimbursable) baggage fees

\*\*must fit into a standard airline sizing box





## AIRLINE POLICIES

**Airline policies are beyond ASC's control.**

Passports:	Valid three months <i>after</i> return (this season only). Undamaged beyond normal wear and tear. At least one blank page for every country you plan on visiting.	If not, the airline has the right to deny boarding at your AOD.
Limited Baggage Transfers:	<i>Ask when you check in:</i> How far are your bags going? Increasingly, airlines are not honoring baggage transfers between carriers.	Even on domestic routes, you might have to retrieve your bags and re-check them during stopovers, especially if you switch airlines. ASK when you check in. You will ALWAYS retrieve your bag in Auckland or Santiago to go through Customs and Immigration.
Number of Bags:	See the <i>ASC Baggage Allowance</i> page.	Be prepared to pay baggage fees at the counter, reimbursable within ASC limits.
Lithium Batteries:	Increasingly, airlines are prohibiting lithium batteries in checked baggage.	Check the airline website for more info about prohibited items.
Check-in:	90 minutes domestic, 2 hours international.	Later than that, the airline can deny boarding.
Special Meals:	Airlines often charge for special meals.	ASC will submit your request but cannot reimburse airline surcharges.
Seat Preference:	Increasingly, airlines are limiting the number of seats that can be pre-selected by the passenger.	ASC Travel does not have the ability to pre-select your seat. Do not pay money or use frequent flier miles to change or upgrade any part of your ticket. If you do, ASC loses control of the ticket and ASC Travel is unable to assist with travel issues. All changes en route and at redeployment become your responsibility with no reimbursement.
ID:	Name on your government-issued ID (e.g., passport) must match the name on your ticket <i>exactly</i> .	If not, you WILL be denied boarding at your AOD.
Homeland Security:	Last minute changes; no-shows.	Raises red flags, incurs delays at check-in. If you skip, miss, or change any flight leg, notify ASC Travel.

Confirm your itinerary with the airline(s) 24 hours prior to flight.  
Last minute changes are difficult, if not impossible to accommodate.  
Don't miss your flight! ASC might not be able to rebook you.



# TRIP DETAILS

## FOR GRANTEES AND TECHNICAL EVENTS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit all forms ten (10) weeks before your scheduled deployment date.

Tickets are purchased no later than twenty-one (21) days in advance.

<b>NAME</b> ( <i>last, first, full middle name</i> ): _____		<b>NICKNAME:</b> _____	<b>GENDER:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	<b>CONTACT INFO:</b>  CELL: _____ WORK: _____ HOME: _____ EMAIL(s): _____ _____	
<b>MAILING ADDRESS:</b>  _____					
<b>EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO:</b>  Name: _____ Relationship: _____		Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____			
Event #:		PI Name:		ASC Science Implementer:	
Destination (business-related stopovers must be approved by the NSF): <input type="checkbox"/> MCM <input type="checkbox"/> South Pole <input type="checkbox"/> Palmer <input type="checkbox"/> Vessel - Cruise #: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Port Call <input type="checkbox"/> Conference/Meeting: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____					
Travel Legs (ASC tickets from the closest major U.S. international airport.)					
From City/State or Airport	To City/State or Country	Departure Date (even if approximate)	Desired Departure Time (Earliest - Latest)	Desired Arrival Time (Earliest - Latest)	
			-	-	
			-	-	
			-	-	
Special Meals:*		Freq Flyer #(s): _____			
		TSA/Global Entry #: _____			
Are you traveling with other USAP participants? If so, whom? _____					
Carrying high-value equipment (single piece of equipment worth more than \$1,000, excluding laptops or cameras)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Excess baggage is anything over the 85 lb (38.5kg) Ice flight limit.			Excess Baggage?*		# of Extra Pieces
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Hotel Check-In Date:		Check-Out Date:			
Hotel in Christchurch:		Hotels in Christchurch are assigned			
Hotel in Punta Arenas:		1 <sup>st</sup> Choice		2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	
Room Type:		<input type="checkbox"/> Smoking <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking		<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Twin Beds <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Double Bed	
Hotel Roommate: _____					
No Hotel Required: <input type="checkbox"/>		Local contact phone number: _____			
Notes or Other Special Requests:  _____					

\*You are responsible for airline surcharges.

**Return to ASC Travel, 7400 South Tucson Way, Centennial, CO 80112-3938 Fax: 303-705-0742**





# PASSPORT DETAILS

ASC Travel must collect current passport information from all deploying participants for ticketing and visa purposes.

Your passport must be valid for three months after redeployment (this season only), undamaged beyond normal wear and tear, with a blank page for each country en route.

Complete and submit form via secure fax 303-705-0742 or U.S. Post Office Mail. **Do not email this document.**

***New Zealand travelers: Submitting this form to ASC gives ASC permission to forward passport details to Immigration New Zealand, limited to the purpose of applying for an NZeTA/IVL.***

Enter information exactly as it appears on passport, and please print legibly.

LAST Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST Name: \_\_\_\_\_

MIDDLE Name: \_\_\_\_\_ no middle name:

Gender: Male  Female

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Issue Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Expiration Day: \_\_\_\_\_ Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

*Passport must be good for six (6) months after return.*

Issuing Authority: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hold any citizenship other than the nationality provided with the passport above? Yes  No

Redress # (if any):\* \_\_\_\_\_

*USAP Records are maintained in accordance with NSF Privacy Act Regulations.*

\* A Redress Number is a unique 13-digit identifier issued by the Department of Homeland Security to individuals who have applied for a Redress Number through the Traveler Redress Inquiry Program (TRIP). Under the terms of the Secure Flight program, such individuals shall provide their Redress Number when making all travel reservations.



# Extreme Cold Weather Clothing Sizes

Please print clearly

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (First name, Full Middle Name, Last Name)

Gender:  Male  Female

Deploying to:  McMurdo  South Pole  remote field camp  Palmer/vessels

Season:  WINFLY  Summer  Winter

Have you deployed before?  Yes  No

**You are a (check one):**

- Grantee     Tech Event     Seasonal Contractor     Fulltime     Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Event #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NSF Staff
- Gana-A'Yoo (GSC)
  - GHG
  - Leidos
  - PAE
  - Parsons
  - Six Mile
  - UTMB



Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Height:		Weight:	
Jacket Size:	<input type="checkbox"/> x-small <input type="checkbox"/> small <input type="checkbox"/> medium <input type="checkbox"/> large <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL <input type="checkbox"/> 4XL <input type="checkbox"/> bringing personal jacket		
Chest Size:			
Glove Size:*	<input type="checkbox"/> x-small <input type="checkbox"/> small <input type="checkbox"/> medium <input type="checkbox"/> large <input type="checkbox"/> XL <input type="checkbox"/> 2XL <input type="checkbox"/> 3XL		
Waist (inches):		Inseam (inches):	
Shoe Size:	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> bringing personal boots		
Additional Requirements:			

\*For gloves, measure around the fullest part of the palm (excluding thumb). Measure from the tip of the middle finger to the base of the hand. The largest measurement is your glove size.

Inches	7	7½-8	8½-9	9½-10	10½-11	11½-12	12-13½
Centimeters	18	20	23	25	28	30	33
Glove Size	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL



# Extreme Cold Weather Gear

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**USAP participants must supply their own socks and base layer insulation clothing to fulfill the Extreme Cold Weather (ECW) clothing requirement.**

The following ECW items are **required** to deploy to Antarctica, including both USAP- and participant-provided clothing. Ask your supervisor or science implementer if you have questions about appropriate clothing.

## USAP-Provided ECW Clothing

- Parka (continental) or windbreaker jacket (peninsula)
- Boots
- Windpant with fleece pant liner or insulated Carhartt bib
- Fleece jacket
- Hat
- Gloves
- Neck gaiter
- Goggles
- Rain jacket and rain pants (peninsula only)

## Participant-Required ECW Clothing

The following items must be supplied by the participant.

- Socks
  - Mountaineering, winter-weight, non-cotton
  - Fabric suggestions: Merino wool or nylon/lycra blend
  - An additional, lightweight, liner sock to be worn underneath is suggested to assist in wicking sweat away from the foot (e.g., merino wool or polypropylene)
  - Suggested quantity is 2-4 pairs each
- Base layer, lightweight (thermal, long underwear - tops and bottoms)\*
  - This insulation layer is worn directly next to skin to wick moisture away from the body
  - Fabric suggestion: synthetics (e.g., polypropylene, polyester, branded materials) or natural fibers (e.g., silk or merino wool)
  - Non-cotton
  - Density approximately 140-200 grams per square meter
    - > The clothing label or website might list this as “140 weight” or another number within this range
- Base layer, mid-weight (thermal, long underwear - tops and bottoms)\*
  - This insulation layer can be worn independently or over base layer
  - Helps protect against cold and wicks moisture from the body
  - Non-cotton
  - Fabric suggestions are synthetics (e.g., polyester, nylon, non-bulky fleece, branded materials such as PolarTec) and natural fibers (e.g., merino wool, down)
  - Density approximately 260-320 grams per square meter
    - > The clothing label or website might list this as “260 weight” or another number within this range

\*An Internet search for light and mid-weight base layers and mountaineering socks will yield recommendations in several price ranges.



# Want to Bring Your Own ECW?

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If this is your first deployment, you cannot bring your own ECW gear.

Returning participants have the option to bring their own ECW, use the gear provided by the USAP, or a combination of both. The option to bring your own ECW only applies to participants returning to locations and seasons with which they have previous experience (e.g., McMurdo at WINFLY, summer at Dome C, sea ice summer, South Pole winter, etc.).

South Pole winterovers may bring their own ECW but must also accept USAP-provided items.

ECW clothing is an area of personal responsibility, one that requires participants to maintain awareness of the conditions they are likely to encounter during certain activities.

If you elect to bring your own ECW, items **MUST** meet the technical specifications below.

## Parka (Expedition/Belay Weight Insulated Jacket)

- 800+ cubic inches of synthetic or down fill (loft of the insulation - "puffiness")
- 250+ grams of insulation (weight of the insulation itself)
- Windproof outer shell
- Attached hood
- Fitted closures at cuffs and bottom, to prevent drafts
- Longer than waistline, especially when bending over, to prevent drafts
- Must keep you warm when inactive for 12 hours, in case of aircraft delays or other field situations

Examples: Rab Positron Jacket 800 fill/275 grams, Patagonia Fitz Roy Down Parka 800 fill

## Boots

- 1000+ grams of insulation
- Removable liner-insert style boot
- Enough additional liner inserts so as to always have a dry liner available
- For summer deployments to Palmer Station, McMurdo Station and the Dry Valleys, temperature rated for -40C/F
- For South Pole and all other continental field locations and seasons, temperature-rated for -100C/-148F
- Must keep your feet warm and dry when standing on snow or ice while inactive for 12 hours, in case of aircraft delays or other field situations

Examples: Baffin Impact, Baffin Apex, Sorel Caribou

## Pants

- Layered system consisting of a windproof outer shell (Gore-Tex or Schoeller equivalent), worn with insulating long underwear or puffy layers underneath
- Or, Carhartt quilted pants/bibs with 400 grams of insulation  
Note: Carhartt 400 gram quilted items are the *only* products utilizing cotton that are acceptable
- Must keep you warm when inactive for 12 hours, in case of aircraft delays or other field situations

Examples: Arctic Cat Advantage bib, Canada Goose Tundra bib overall, Ski-Doo Expedition highpants



# Antarctic Lodging Request Worksheet

(Complete for McMurdo, South Pole and Palmer Stations)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

Station:  McMurdo  South Pole  Palmer

Winterover?  Yes  No

To facilitate your housing in Antarctica, the following information is extremely helpful.  
Please understand that we cannot guarantee a specific roommate/suitemate or room assignment.

Roommate Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Suitemate(s) Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

If known, do you snore?  Yes  No  Unknown

Are you a smoker?  Yes  No

*(Note: Smoking is prohibited in dorm rooms. Smoking is permitted in designated outside areas only.)*

Note: Housing for McMurdo and South Pole Stations is assigned.

Palmer Station Room or Building Request:  GWR  BIO

Notes / Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have any questions or special needs, please contact your USAP Point of Contact.*

**ASC Travel**  
7400 S. Tucson Way  
Centennial, CO 80112

phone: 800-688-8606 x33202 or 303-790-8606 x33202  
fax: 303-705-0742



# RETURN FORMS TO ASC TRAVEL

Thank you for completing the 2020-2021 Antarctic Deployment Packet.

- Please fax the forms to ASC Travel ASAP.
- Do not wait until you physically qualify.
- Do not send travel forms to Medical (UTMB) or vice versa.
- Is your name on each page?

Fax is the preferred option. Regular mail is the next best option.

Do NOT return forms by email. ASC email servers are not secure.

Mailing address: ASC Travel  
7400 South Tucson Way  
Centennial, CO 80112-3938

Fax: 303-705-0742

You will receive email confirmation within two working days of receipt. ***Please do not call to ask if we received your fax.*** These calls reduce our ability to move people efficiently through the system during peak times.

Your forms contain personally-identifiable information:

**DO NOT EMAIL YOUR FORMS**

*USAP records are maintained in accordance with NSF Privacy Act Regulations.*

