Phase III airport guidelines

Beginning on June 30, 2020, airports may continue current services. In accordance with Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) emergency regulations, airports must prepare and implement a COVID-19 Control Plan. The RIDOH emergency regulations can be found here. The State prepared a guidance document to assist businesses in meeting the requirements outlined in these RIDOH regulations. Barring federal law, airports must comply with RIDOH regulations and active executive orders. Barring federal law, airports should also abide by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance issued for the transportation and delivery sectors that can be found here.

The guidelines below summarize additional steps Rhode Island is requiring or asking airports to take. If you have any questions about this guidance, please contact Joseph Masino at Joseph.masino@governor.ri.gov.

Phase III Operations:

- **Physical distancing:** To maintain proper distance, passengers must follow the regulations in 216-RICR-50-15-7 - Safe Activities By Covered Entities During the COVID-19 Emergency. Floor demarcations should be placed at TSA checkpoints, airline check-in counters, and concessions.
- **Quarantine:** Arriving passengers should be informed of any quarantine restrictions in accordance with any relevant executive orders or RIDOH regulations through visual messaging, including but not limited to posting of executive orders on display boards and reference to executive orders on the airport’s public announcement system.
- **Screening signage:** Screening signage should be posted at the entrances and high-traffic areas.
- **Food and beverage sales:** All food and beverage sales shall follow the most recent executive orders and regulations related to restaurants.
- **Face coverings:** All persons (employees and passengers) are required to wear face coverings when providing or using airport services in accordance with RIDOH regulations and Executive Order 20-41. Nothing in this guidance shall require a place of business to refuse entry to a customer not wearing a face covering.
- **Cleaning procedures:** Public areas (including, but not limited to, high-touch points, escalator rails, water fountains, and restrooms) will be cleaned in accordance with RIDOH regulations. Review CDC guidelines for additional suggested practices.
- **Customer service:** Employees are required to wash and sanitize their hands on a routine basis. Employees in positions that require direct contact with customers should wear gloves only if normally required to do so.
- **Retail:** Non-critical retail should follow all applicable guidelines for reopening.