

FAQs* on testing obligations for returning travelers according to the decision of the Conference of German Federal State Prime Ministers on March 22, 2021

To whom do the new testing obligations apply? Do the new testing obligations only apply to travelers returning from Mallorca?

All travelers who like to enter the Federal Republic of Germany by air must take a mandatory test before departure. Crews are not affected by this obligation.

Where and by whom are the tests conducted? What do I do if I cannot get a test abroad?

The testing is carried out at the approved places abroad. If it is not possible for travelers to obtain proof of testing, carriers may carry out or arrange for testing before departure in accordance with the requirements and, in case of a negative test result, provide carriage.

When exactly do I need to be tested?

The test result must be available before departure in order to present it to the carrier. In principle, the nasal swab on which the test is based must have been taken no more than 48 hours before entry.

Who pays for the tests?

Air travelers generally pay the costs for testing.

Can I be forced to get tested?

No, but carriage by air carriers is permitted only upon presentation of a negative test result.

What happens if the test is positive?

Transport by the carriers is only permitted with a negative test result. Isolation according to local regulations is to be carried out at the traveler's own responsibility.

Who pays for the quarantine in the vacation country?

The infection protection regulations are based on the legal provisions of the country in which the traveler is staying abroad. As a rule, the traveler bears the costs incurred for this himself.

Does the testing obligation apply only to air travelers or to travel by car as well?

For air travelers only. For travelers from risk areas, entries by other modes of transport are also affected.

How is the testing obligation controlled?

With the new general testing obligation in air traffic, the carriers check the existence of proof of testing. In addition, the authority responsible under the Infection Protection Act (usually: public health department) and the authority responsible for border police duties (usually: federal police) can also request the presentation of proof of testing.

How is mandatory testing enforced?

Carriage to the Federal Republic of Germany must be prohibited if the travelers have not presented proof of testing during the inspection; this also applies if the data provided is obviously incorrect. A violation of these obligations is subject to a fine for the transport companies.

Who registers the test results?

The reporting obligation for test results, as mentioned in the Infection Protection Act, applies to the people and bodies set out in paragraph 8 IfSG in Germany.

Is the new regulation limited in time?

For the time being, the new testing obligation applies up to May 12, 2021.

*the FAQs on testing obligations are subject to constant update and change

An updated list may be found at