



Non-emergency Transport of People with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

People may need to transport household or family members who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, who have possible symptoms of COVID-19 or who may have been exposed to COVID-19 using personal vehicles. The following precautions can be considered to minimize risk of spreading COVID-19 when sharing personal vehicles.

If the driver and passengers are not sick (everyday practices for safe transportation)

- Wear a face covering. This is especially important when it's hard to stay at least 6 feet away from people.
- **Note:** masks should not be placed on:
 - Babies and children younger than 2 years old
 - Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious
 - Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove a mask without help
- Masks are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.

Practice physical distancing to the extent possible

- The passengers should sit as far away as possible from the driver and from each other.
- Travel with windows open or use the vehicle's vents for fresh air circulation.

Wash your hands



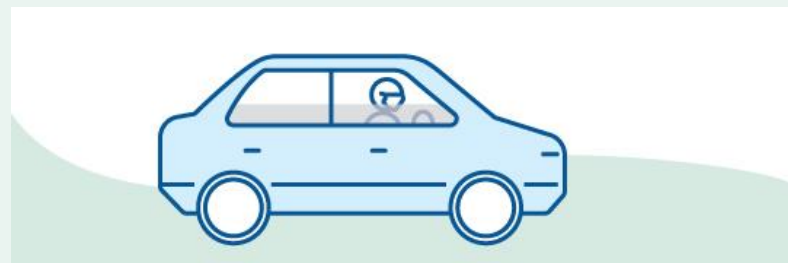
- Before you leave home, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Once you reach your destination, wash your hands again with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol as soon as possible upon arrival.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Bring cleaning supplies



- Before traveling, pack sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol (in case you are unable to wash your hands at your destination), if available.
- Clean and disinfect commonly-touched surfaces (e.g., door handles, handrails, seatbelt buckles) with EPA-approved disinfectants after each trip.

If a passenger is sick with COVID-19 and being transported for medical care



Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19, who are sick or who have recently had a close contact (closer than 6 feet) with a person infected with COVID-19 should **not** transport others in their vehicle or ride in a shared vehicle. They should stay home except to seek medical care.

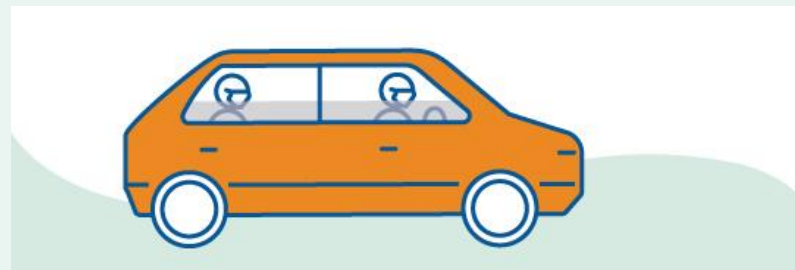
Whenever possible, individuals seeking medical care for COVID-19 should transport themselves in vehicles with no passengers. If unable to transport themselves, drivers can refer to the following recommendations when transporting a sick passenger suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19.

Wear respiratory protection



- The driver should wear a surgical or N95 mask and a face shield if possible.
- The ill passenger should wear a surgical mask or a cloth face covering.

Limit close contact



- The passenger should sit in the back seat as far away as possible from the driver.
- The bigger the vehicle, the better. Vans and other large vehicles allow for better physical distancing between the passenger and driver.
- Travel with windows open or use the vehicle's vents for fresh air circulation.
- Avoid picking up other passengers.

Clean and disinfect



- Clean and disinfect the vehicle after transporting passengers who are suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19.
- Follow cleaning and disinfection procedures every time. Doors and windows should remain open when cleaning the vehicle. When cleaning and disinfecting, wear disposable gloves that are meant to be used with the cleaning products as well as a mask.
- After cleaning, remove gloves and throw them in the trash. Wash your hands immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. Wash clothes worn during cleaning and disinfecting using the hottest water setting possible and dry clothes completely following the wash. Wash your hands after handling dirty laundry.
- Make sure that you remove any cleaning residue (film) from the vehicle before transporting anyone else.

References

OHA - [Guidelines for Non-Emergency Transportation](#)

CDC - [Considerations for Non-emergency Vehicle Transportation for Tribal Communities During COVID-19](#)

CDC - [Cleaning and Disinfection for Non-emergency Transport Vehicles](#)

Document accessibility: For individuals with disabilities or individuals who speak a language other than English, OHA can provide information in alternate formats such as translations, large print, or braille. Contact the Health Information Center at 1-971-673-2411, 711 TTY or COVID19.LanguageAccess@dhsoha.state.or.us.