

**HEALTH SERVICES (COVID 19)(PREVENTION
AND MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY SPREAD)
(AMENDMENT)(NO. 4) RULES, 2022**

Arrangement of Rules

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**HEALTH SERVICES ACT
(CHAPTER 231)**

**HEALTH SERVICES (COVID 19)(PREVENTION AND
MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY SPREAD)
(AMENDMENT)(NO. 4) RULES, 2022**

The Minister in exercise of the powers conferred by section 29 of the Health Services Act (*Ch. 231*) hereby makes the following rules —

1. Citation.

These Rules may be cited as the Health Services (Covid 19)(Prevention and Management of Community Spread) (Amendment)(No.4) Rules, 2021.

2. Revocation and replacement of rule 5 of the principal Rules.

Rule 5 of the principal Rules is revoked and replaced as follows —

“5. Entry requirements for citizens, legal residents and visitors.

- (1) Except as otherwise provided in this Part —
 - (a) a citizen or legal resident of The Bahamas who complies with paragraph (2);
 - (b) a visitor who —
 - (i) presents a travel health visa issued in accordance with rule 6; and
 - (ii) complies with all other legal requirements for entry pursuant to the provisions of the Immigration Act (*Ch. 191*),shall be permitted to enter The Bahamas.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a), a citizen or legal resident, shall be required to present to the operator of an aircraft or vessel —
 - (a) if fully vaccinated, documentary evidence of his vaccination and a valid negative Covid 19 test result;
 - (b) if not fully vaccinated, a valid negative RTPCR test result;
 - (c) if twelve years old or younger, a valid negative Covid 19 test result;
- (3) A person referred to in paragraph (2) may submit a valid health clearance letter in lieu of a valid negative RTPCR or rapid antigen test result.

- (4) The parent or guardian of a person referred to in paragraph (2)(c) who is a minor shall present or cause to be presented, to the operator of an aircraft or vessel, the valid negative results of the Covid 19 test or a valid health clearance letter.”.

3. **Revocation and replacement of rule 6 of the principal Rules.**

Rule 6 of the principal Rules is revoked and replaced as follows —

“6. Requirement for issue of travel health visa.

- (1) An applicant for a travel health visa shall submit via the travel health website —
 - (a) if fully vaccinated against Covid 19 —
 - (i) documentary evidence that he is fully vaccinated against Covid 19;
 - (ii) a valid negative Covid 19 test result; or
 - (iii) a valid health clearance letter; and
 - (iv) his contact and other required information;
 - (b) if not fully vaccinated against Covid 19 —
 - (i) a valid negative RTPCR test result; or
 - (ii) a valid health clearance letter; and
 - (iii) his contact and other required information;
 - (c) if aged twelve years or younger —
 - (i) a valid negative Covid 19 test result; or
 - (ii) a valid health clearance letter; and
 - (iii) his contact and other required information.
- (2) A person referred to in paragraph (1) may submit a valid health clearance letter in lieu of a valid negative RTPCR or rapid antigen test result.
- (3) The parent or guardian of an applicant who is a minor shall submit or cause to be submitted, to the travel health website, results of the Covid 19 test or the valid health clearance letter, together with the parent or guardian's contact and other required information.
- (4) An applicant who is approved for a travel health visa, shall pay the fee as set out in the *First Schedule*.
- (5) A travel health visa issued to a person referred to in this rule, shall be valid for travel into The Bahamas for the period of validity of the Covid 19 test taken to obtain the travel health visa in accordance with rule 10.
- (6) The holder of a valid travel health visa shall not be required to undergo a further Covid 19 test to embark upon inter island

travel where the test submitted to obtain the travel health visa is still valid at embarkation for inter island travel.”.

4. Revocation and replacement of rule 10 of the principal Rules.

Rule 10 of the principal rules is revoked and replaced as follows —

“10. Validity of Covid 19 test results.

(1) Subject to rule 36B, the results of a Covid 19 test administered

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- (a) by a diagnostic facility in The Bahamas;
 - (b) by an accredited lab outside of The Bahamas, for the purpose of satisfying a requirement of entry into The Bahamas,

shall be —

- (i) in the case of a rapid antigen test, valid for a period of forty-eight hours from and inclusive of the date on which the sample was taken; or
 - (ii) in the case of a RTPCR test, valid for a period of seventy-two hours from and inclusive of the date on which the sample was taken.
- (2) A person whose journey into The Bahamas extends beyond the period of validity of the Covid 19 test results submitted, shall be permitted to enter The Bahamas provided the captain of the aircraft or vessel can prove at the point of entry into The Bahamas that —
- (a) the aircraft or vessel's travel to The Bahamas commenced prior to the expiration of the Covid 19 test results; and
 - (b) the travel to The Bahamas was direct with no prior stops to any other ports of call.
- (3) The negative results of a Covid 19 test taken for any purpose may be used to satisfy any requirement of these Rules for a negative Covid 19 test result provided the test results are still valid in accordance with paragraph (1).”.

Made this 28th day of January, 2022



MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH