



May 20, 2026

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Arrival Restrictions Applicable to Flights Carrying Persons Who Have Recently Traveled From or Were Otherwise Present Within the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Uganda, or South Sudan

Pursuant to 6 U.S.C. 112(a), 19 U.S.C. 1433(c), and 19 CFR 122.32, DHS has the authority to limit the locations where all flights entering the United States from abroad may land. Under this authority and effective for flights departing after 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, all operators of aircraft are to ensure that all **identified travelers** (with the exception of those operated or contracted by Department of War) who have recently traveled from, or were otherwise present within, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Uganda, or South Sudan only land at the following airport:

- Washington-Dulles International Airport (IAD) in Virginia

Identified travelers should not be permitted to board unless they have a ticket with the first point of entry into the United States at Washington-Dulles International Airport.

This direction is subject to any changes to the airport landing destination that may be required for aircraft and/or airspace safety as directed by the Federal Aviation Administration. This direction considers a person to have recently traveled from the DRC, Uganda, or South Sudan if that person departed from, or was otherwise present within, the DRC, Uganda, or South Sudan within 21 days of the date of the person's entry or attempted entry into the United States.

Exceptions based on the CDC order and CBP operations include:

- U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals,
- Lawful permanent residents;¹
- Members of the armed forces of the United States and associated personnel, U.S. government personnel serving overseas, associated personnel, and their spouses and children, subject to required assurances;²
- Commercial aviation and maritime crew
- Commercial crew or flights carrying only cargo
- Unaccompanied alien children/minors and diplomats
- Persons whom CBP officers determine, with approval from a supervisor, should be excepted from this Order based on the totality of the circumstances, including consideration of significant law enforcement, officer and public safety, humanitarian, and public health interests. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will consult with CDC regarding the standards for such exceptions to help ensure consistency with current CDC guidance and public health recommendations; and
- Noncitizens who would otherwise be subject to this Order, who are permitted to enter the United States as part of a DHS-approved process, where the process approved by DHS has been documented and shared with CDC, and includes appropriate mitigation protocols, per CDC guidance.

¹ 42 CFR 71.40(f).

² 42 CFR 71.40(e)(1) and (3).

Arrival restrictions continue until cancelled or modified by the Secretary of Homeland Security and notice of such cancellation or modification is published in the Federal Register.

Violations impose unnecessary challenges to public health. To address errors and ensure consistent compliance with CBP requirements, absent exigent or unusual circumstances, penalties will be pursued against carriers failing to comply with directive.

For additional information on Ebola and the CDC response, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov> or [Ebola Disease: Current Situation | Ebola | CDC](#)