

AUXILIARY COVID-19 RECONSTITUTION GUIDANCE

1. Auxiliarists are authorized to perform Auxiliary activities pursuant to assignments to duty from one of the following Order Issuing Authorities (OIA):
 - a. The Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX).
 - b. The Headquarters program manager for a Headquarters unit or their designee (e.g., the Director of Health, Safety and Work-Life (CG-11)).
 - c. The Area Commander or their designee (e.g., Area Chief of External Affairs (092)).
 - d. The District Commander or their designee (e.g., Chief of Prevention (dp), Director of Auxiliary (dpa), District Chaplain (dch), Sector Commander).
2. In determining assignment to duty authorization, all due consideration must be given mission need and risk that may stem from fundamental Auxiliary demographics in determining whether or not an assignment to duty is warranted. As nation-wide efforts to reconstitute and drive towards new normalcies in the way we conduct business and socially interact, these provisions describe precautionary measures to be considered, in concert with State and local guidance, to protect the health and safety of Coast Guard Auxiliarists, Coast Guard and other DHS employees, and their families from potential exposure to COVID-19,
3. Auxiliary Activities.
 - a. All Auxiliary activities are authorized to be performed as long as the cognizant District Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX) Office provides regional guidance, the Auxiliary activities conform to the risk-vs-gain assessments of the OIA, and **the activities are determined by the OIA to fully meet their mission need criteria**. In cases in which an OIA is not geographically located with the Auxiliarist, (e.g., CG-11 serving as OIA for AUXHS participants) then it is incumbent upon that OIA to ensure awareness of the Auxiliarist's region and reconcile any concerns with the cognizant region. The principal point-of-contact for such awareness and reconciliation is the DIRAUX (dpa). Auxiliary operators are reminded to **NOT** request patrol orders or assignment to duty unless an authorized OIA has specifically requested Auxiliary support for a mission.
 - b. All risk-vs-gain assessments by OIAs for Auxiliary assignments to duty must apply PLANORD factors and control band criteria, as well as consider applicable state/local orders and restrictions.
 - c. All OIAs must give special consideration of age, particularly for Auxiliarists 65 years of age and older, and COVID-19 high-risk factors in determining the propriety of any Auxiliary assignment to duty. The *Auxiliary COVID-19 High Risk Form* (Enclosure 1) must be used for Auxiliarists to certify their status with respect to COVID-19 high-risk criteria. Copies of this form must be provided to the cognizant OIA and DIRAUX Office prior to any individual Auxiliarist commencing an activity. The form only needs to be submitted once unless any information in Blocks 1 or 2 change. An updated form must then be submitted prior to commencing any activity.

- d. All OIAs must give special consideration to the proper outfitting of Auxiliarists with PPE for an assignment to duty. If the OIA or the Auxiliarist cannot ensure that proper PPE for the assignment to duty is ready, available, and will be properly used, then the assignment to duty must not be performed. (Note: CG-BSX will not provide funding for PPE)
- e. Given the current COVID-19 environment, Auxiliary unit meetings are authorized pursuant to the following guidelines:
 - (1) Auxiliary leaders and DIRAUX offices should assess which meetings can be adapted to remote or virtual means using approved video or audio platforms.
 - (2) If the meeting cannot be conducted by remote or virtual means, then the *Coast Guard Risk Assessment for Enclosed Space Mass Gatherings* (Enclosure 2) should be used by the DIRAUX office to determine if an Auxiliary unit meeting is needed and meets the risk-vs-gain criteria. If the Mass Gathering Risk Assessment determines that an Auxiliary unit meeting is permitted by policy, then the meeting must be limited to no more than the minimum number of individuals needed to complete its purpose. The minimum numbers for Auxiliary unit meetings are defined as follows (Note: In any case, this number must not exceed any currently defined state/local maximum (e.g., if a current state maximum for any meeting is 10 people and the Auxiliary unit meeting is permitted based on the Mass Gathering Assessment, then the Auxiliary unit meeting maximum shall not exceed 10 members)):
 - Flotilla: FC (or VFC) and the 19 authorized flotilla staff officers
 - Division: DCDR (or VCDR), the FCs (or VFCs), and the 18 authorized division staff officers
 - District: DCO (or DCOS), the DCAPTs, the DCDRs (or VCDRs), and the 18 authorized district staff officers
 - National: NACO (or VNACO), the DNACOs, the 16 DCOs (or DCOSs)
 - (3) A social distancing and PPE plan for meetings held pursuant to this guidance must be approved in advance by DIRAUX. Applicable risk-vs-gain and mission need criteria must be met.
- f. Requisite training requirements identified in paragraph 4 of this guidance must be successfully completed by all designated crew in advance of operational assignments to duty (i.e., patrols).

4. Training and Patrol Operations.

- a. All Auxiliarists are expected to view the CDC's COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html> for further information on transmission, prevention, symptoms and emergency warning signs, people at higher risk for severe illness, exposure risk, preventing infection, etc.
- b. Auxiliarists engaged in health services support (AUXHS) must know the clinical manifestations of COVID-19 and be familiar with applicable guidance on MEDEVAC for High Risk Infectious Disease.

- c. Auxiliarists performing ordered patrol missions for Coast Guard commands must follow the same PLANORD protocols for those missions including PPE outfitting and decontamination procedures as may be necessary. Such Auxiliarists must fulfill the following training requirements which are available in the COVID portfolio of the Coast Guard course catalogue accessible through the Auxiliary Learning Management System (AUXLMS: <https://auxlearning.uscg.mil/>):
- (1) Emergency Response, First Responder Awareness Level Training (Course #501538).
 - (2) Blood Borne Pathogens Training (Course #100293). An Order Issuing Authority's (OIA) designated unit-level course is acceptable.
 - (3) Until a link to record these course completions in AUXDATA II is established, Auxiliarists should retain a copy of their course completion (electronic acceptable) to provide an OIA as necessary.
- d. Order Issuing Authorities must ensure that Auxiliarists who are required to wear N95 respirators are properly qualitatively fit-tested in accordance with ALSAFETY 005/20 Safety Promotion – Respiratory Protection Program. Auxiliarists must then disinfect each N95 respirator qualitative fit hood using a chemical approved from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>) or an alcohol wipe (with at least 70% alcohol) between users to prevent a potentially contagious Auxiliarist from unknowingly spreading the virus to others. The hood should be allowed several minutes to dry and OIAs should refrain from fit testing any Auxiliarists with symptoms similar to COVID-19. If Auxiliarists are going to wear goggles while using an N95 respirator, they must be fit tested to both the goggles and the N95 respirator together to ensure a proper seal can be created with both the goggles and the respirator.
- e. Currency in Auxiliary Core Training (AUXCT) requirements is otherwise sufficient for Auxiliarists to be assigned to duty and engage in authorized activities outside their homes.

5. All official Auxiliary engagement activities that entail physical contact with foreign partners (government, private sector, and academia) is suspended unless specifically authorized in accordance with paragraph 1.

6. All official Auxiliary engagement activities that entail attending a conference, convention, or other large gathering is suspended unless specifically authorized in accordance with paragraph 1.

7. Provisions of ALAUX 003/20 sections 2.a.(1)-(4), 2.b.-e., 3.a.-c., and 4.a.-b. remain in effect.

8. Order Issuing Authorities (OIA) must honor and respect an Auxiliarist's request to not perform an assignment to duty due to the Auxiliarist's concerns about COVID-19 exposure.

Enclosures: (1) Auxiliary COVID-19 High Risk Form
(2) Coast Guard Risk Assessment for Enclosed Space Mass Gatherings