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**David Y. Ige**  
*Governor*

**John De Fries**  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

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## **HTA Responds to the State's Decision to Start the Pre-travel Testing Program on October 15**

**HONOLULU** – Gov. David Ige announced this afternoon that the State of Hawai'i's pre-travel testing program will start on October 15, 2020. This will give travelers arriving from out of state an alternative to the 14-day mandatory self-quarantine.

"Hawai'i will start its pre-travel testing program for COVID-19 on October 15, enabling travelers to avoid quarantine if they take the test within a 72-hour period prior to their arrival and test negative. We have agreements in place with CVS and Kaiser Permanente, who will offer the tests, and we will announce new testing partners in the coming weeks," Gov. Ige said.

In response to today's announcement, John De Fries, who started today as the new president and CEO of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) said, "The governor's announcement aligns well with the fact that Hawai'i's visitor industry has established protocols to ensure the safety of our residents and workforce, while also welcoming back pre-tested guests safely."

Initially the pre-travel testing program was scheduled to begin on August 1. Hawai'i's trans-Pacific quarantine has been in effect since March 26 as a way to help control the spread of COVID-19. The Hawai'i Department of Health is in charge of the pre-travel testing program.

According to a [press release](#) from Gov. Ige's office, the test must be an FDA-approved nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT), performed using a nasal swab, and the travelers must show proof of negative test results from a CLIA certified laboratory. Upon arrival in Hawai'i, passengers unable to provide proof of an approved negative test will be required to go into quarantine for 14 days or until they can provide proof of negative test results.

"We continue to educate visitors before and after they arrive in the Hawaiian Islands to make them more mindful and aware about their responsibility to keep themselves and our residents safe," De Fries added.

The State of Hawai'i released this graphic to help explain the pre-travel testing program:  
<https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Pre-Travel-Test-or-Quarantine-Flowchart.pdf>

To see the safety protocols established by Hawai'i's visitor industry:  
[www.hawaiiitourismauthority.org/media/5190/visitors-journey.pdf](http://www.hawaiiitourismauthority.org/media/5190/visitors-journey.pdf)

To watch Gov. Ige's press conference, visit HTA's Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/HawaiiHTA/>

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**About the Hawai'i Tourism Authority**

The [Hawai'i Tourism Authority](#) is the State of Hawai'i agency responsible for strategically managing its support of the tourism industry. Established in 1998 to support Hawai'i's leading industry and largest employer, HTA continually strives to help ensure tourism's sustainability and the benefits it brings to residents and communities statewide. Follow updates about HTA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) (@HawaiiHTA).

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