

Stay Safe This Holiday Season

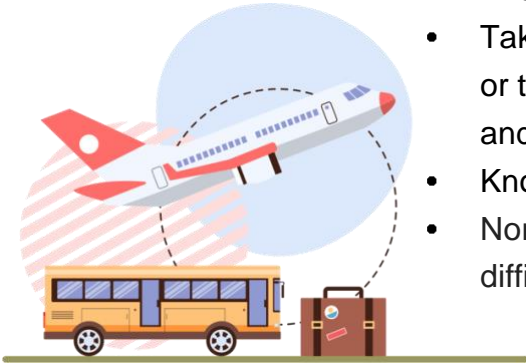
Although the number of new COVID-19 cases in Japan has been low recently, there are serious concerns about a sixth wave, especially involving the new Omicron variant. It's believed that the Omicron variant is highly infectious and could pose a risk of reinfection.

So this holiday season, please be extra vigilant and always take basic infection prevention measures, even if you have been vaccinated.



If you are returning home:

- Avoid popular travel dates, and do not travel if you are unwell.
- Take special care when meeting vulnerable people such as the elderly or those with underlying health conditions. Make a note of where you go and who you meet, in case contact tracing is necessary.
- Know who to contact in case of an emergency.
- Non-urgent international travel is strongly discouraged. You might have difficulties re-entering Japan if you leave.



On your first shrine visit of the new year:

- Avoid popular times and shrines that attract large crowds.
- Maintain appropriate physical distance from other people.
- Wear a mask at all times.



If you're attending a Christmas or New Year party:

- Please reconsider. The university would prefer that students, faculty and staff avoid large social gatherings, especially where there's eating, drinking alcohol and singing involved.
- Eat and drink with people you know to be safe. Keep maskless conversations to a minimum.
- Make sure that rooms are well ventilated and that seats are arranged so that people are not too close or directly facing each other.



In all situations, please wear a mask, wash your hands frequently and thoroughly, use disinfectant, keep physical distance from other people and avoid the 3Cs (closed spaces, crowded environments and close-contact settings.)

Let's be careful and responsible over the next few weeks so that we can start 2022 safe and healthy.

HAPPY
holidays