

# COVID-19 Observer Redeployment Safety Precautions

As observers get back to work, the number one priority is to mitigate the risk of contracting and spreading the virus.

Observer provider companies have developed COVID-19 operational plans to safely deploy observers. These plans are intended to be evaluated on an ongoing basis and may be changed to address new or changed circumstances. Here are the steps observer provider companies are including in their plans to date to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure:

## Observers

- Observers will be tested prior to their first deployment. Frequency thereafter depends on the provider plan.
- Temperature Checks: Daily prior to deployment and while deployed at sea.
- Negative COVID-test prior to their first deployment and intermittently after, depending on the provider.

### Observer Best Practices on the Vessel

- Follow sanitation protocols while on deck, in the galley, and bunk area.
- Keep face-to-face interaction to an absolute minimum between observers, crew, and shore-based workers.

### Symptomatic Observer on Land

- Prior to deployment, an observer must:
  - Be cleared by a physician or receive a negative test result.
  - Pass a pre-trip health screening.

### Symptomatic Observer at Sea

- Advise the captain and their employer.
- Monitor symptoms and remain in isolation on the vessel, if possible, until the vessel lands in port.
- Wear a mask at all times.
- Use separate bathroom facilities, if available.

## Provider Companies

**Vessel Assessment:** Companies may conduct a vessel assessment prescreening with vessel representatives prior to each trip. The prescreening will help determine if it is safe for an observer to cover the vessel.

**Observer Screening:** Companies will conduct a screening with all observers prior to offering a trip. If the observer clears the screening questions they can be assigned the trip.

**COVID-19 Deployment Kit:** Each observer receives a deployment kit with:

- Personal protection equipment.
- Instructions.
- Other relevant information.

### Travel Practices

- **Whenever possible**, observers will be deployed on trips out of their immediate homeport.
- **Whenever possible**, an observer will be deployed on a vessel they've recently covered.

### Observer Provider Company Contact Information

AIS 508-742-5510 AIS Plan: <https://aisobservers.com/nefsc-observer-deployment-operations-plan/>

EWTS 860-910-4957 EWTS: <http://ewts.com/COVID.19.pdf>

Fathom Resources 508-990-0997 Fathoms Plan: [http://fathomresources.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Fathom-Resources\\_COVID\\_19\\_Deployment-Plan.-7-15-20.pdf](http://fathomresources.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Fathom-Resources_COVID_19_Deployment-Plan.-7-15-20.pdf)