



## Travel Updates

The Covid-19 pandemic has greatly impacted our lives. As educators, you are trying to navigate the many different teaching requirements placed upon you, with some of those at the last minute. Obviously, travel is probably the last thing on your mind. Knowing your current demands, we still want to share how Bennett Travel is moving forward.

School refunds were completed last June for the trips canceled due to the pandemic thanks to our contracted vendors who worked cooperatively with us to ensure our clients would be taken care of quickly and providing the highest refund amount possible. Based on information obtained from other tour operators around the state and country, Bennett Travel was one of the fastest in processing refunds. There are a couple of reasons for this:

- As a company, we decided last April to offer only refunds and did not pursue travel vouchers for travel in 2021. We were in the small minority of tour operators that made the correct financial decision for our clients since it turned out there will not be group travel in the spring of 2021 until everyone feels safe again.
- As you may know, the majority of tour operators use a third party to make all the reservations for their group clients, which is definitely less time consuming. We are in a small class of tour operators that deal directly with hotels, restaurants, venues, and transportation on your behalf regardless of how much time it takes. Through experience, we have found that the harder we work for your group, the better the trip.

While still tentative about traveling in the fall of 2021, Bennett Travel is optimistic that we will be in full travel mode by the spring of 2022. During this time of “no travel”, all aspects of Bennett Travel have been updated making group travel extremely safe, convenient, and still affordable while continuing the best service in the industry. Safeguards have been added to protect trip payments through our recommended group insurance provider. Our partner motor coach companies, hotels, and venues have added numerous safety and sterilization protocols to enhance a positive travel experience.

Vaccinations are now being distributed! According to the CDC, all who wish to be vaccinated should be by late summer 2021. While we cannot know whether or not each school district will require vaccinations, we are certain that administrators and boards of education will carefully consider the best course of action for their district.

If you are currently a client of Bennett Travel or would simply like more information of what we can do for you, please contact us at your convenience. Our talented and experienced team of sales and tour consultants are ready to take you around the world and make your travel experience the best ever!