

Gathering in person on the ISU campus

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all of us in significant ways, including our usual pathways for connection on campus. Student health and wellbeing are inextricably linked to student academic success, retention, and persistence to graduation. Holistically addressing the public health concerns of COVID-19 includes the need for opportunities that safely promote the connection, engagement, and mental health of our campus. Besides personal wellbeing, informal networking is also important for professional growth and a component of the Cyclone experience.

If you and your ISU group, unit or organization are comfortable meeting in person, this document provides an overview on how to gather. Please recognize that people have different abilities and comfort levels with meeting in person, so having a hybrid option is important and strongly encouraged, when possible.

All types of events, meetings, activities, and/or other gatherings can take place in person on campus, either indoors or outdoors, but must comply with the following:

- » If not serving food, then distancing of 6 feet is recommended but not required, but gatherings must not exceed 50% of venue capacity.
- » If serving food, 6 feet of physical distancing is required by participants consuming food.
- » No self-service meals are allowed.
- » All food items should be prepackaged or preassembled.
- » Face coverings are important for reducing risk; all participants must abide by the [face covering policy](#).

Your gathering only requires authorization if it meets the definition of an event [found here](#). Most gatherings for ISU faculty, staff, and students only are NOT considered "events" and DO NOT need authorization, but still need to follow the notes and guidelines included here. In general, your gathering requires authorization if:

- » It is open to members of the public
- » It is open to more than just current ISU faculty, staff, or students
- » There is a need to coordinate services for the gathering by multiple university departments

Here are some relevant policies and other guidance resources:

- » [Recommendations for gatherings and events](#)
- » [Student Organization Guidelines](#)
- » [Face Coverings Policy](#)
- » [ISU social gathering policy modified 9/28](#)
- » [Party Like a Cyclone](#)
- » [Wellbeing toolkit](#)
- » [CDC guidance for holiday gatherings](#)

Do you still have questions? Email gatherings@iastate.edu