

Guidance for Gatherings at Iowa State University

As of July 31, 2020

The following guidance is for all gatherings at Iowa State University, including but not limited to meetings, events, and other programs taking place on ISU property indoors or outdoors. Further, this guidance is intended for all ISU-directed events, meetings, and other programs taking place off campus.

- » Please visit the [University Event Authorization system](#) for more information.
- » Any ISU Extension and Outreach-directed events, meetings, and other programs taking place off-campus and across the state should follow the guidance provided at the [Open for Iowa website](#).

Contingency planning and enforcement

- » As the COVID-19 situation evolves and guidance from government and public health agencies is refined, event organizers should create emergency contingency plans for how to modify, postpone, cancel, or virtualize event(s).
- » Instruct individuals to stay home if they have [symptoms of COVID-19](#) or are feeling sick.
- » Venue staff and event organizers should be knowledgeable of and be able to enforce current COVID-19 public health guidance and ISU guidelines.
- » [Signage regarding attendee direction, sanitizing surfaces, and health behaviors](#) is available on [ISU's COVID-19 Response page](#).

High Risk Individuals

- » [Individuals defined as high risk for severe illness from COVID-19 by the CDC](#) or individuals who live with someone who is high risk should consider avoiding what the CDC considers high-risk gatherings.

Face coverings required

- » Face coverings will be required to be worn by visitors to ISU, event attendees and participants, faculty, staff, and students everywhere on ISU property, indoors or outdoors, where physical distancing is not possible, effective July 1, 2020. Individuals who cannot wear cloth face coverings due to health issues may wear a face shield.
- » Face coverings are also required for all ISU-directed events, meetings, and other programs taking place off campus where physical distancing is not possible.
- » Face coverings should cover the nose and mouth.

50% occupancy restriction

- » The number of attendees should not exceed 50% of the gathering space's capacity.

Food service requirements

- » No self-service meals are allowed.
- » All food items should be prepackaged or preassembled.
- » All food items should be distributed by event staff and not directly accessible by attendees.

Best practices for gatherings

- » Make remote participation available when possible.
- » Hold gatherings outdoors when possible
- » Have widely available handwashing stations and/or hand sanitizer stations
- » Allow for physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) wherever possible

Resources

- » (WHO) [Public Health for Mass Gatherings, Key Considerations](#)
- » (CDC) [Guidance for Mass Gatherings or Large Community Events during COVID-19](#)
- » (Event Safety Alliance) [The Event Safety Alliance Reopening Guide](#)
- » (CDC) [Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities](#)
- » (IDPH) [Public Health COVID-19 Reopening Guidance](#)
- » (IA Gov.) [State Public Health Emergency Declaration 7/24/20](#)