**Visitors to Penn State Campuses**

**March 21, 2022**

**Introduction and Philosophy**

This document updates and discusses the general principles that should govern decisions about inviting visitors to campus during this time. Units inviting visitors to campus should ensure that current health and safety guidelines are followed.

Individual visitors should consider their own level of risk of travel before visiting a campus. Individuals still bear responsibility for adhering to any University and local guidelines and protocols to mitigate the spread of
COVID-19.

While Penn State has adopted guidelines and protocols recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, there is no way to entirely eliminate the risk of exposure or infection. As always, the University reserves the right to cancel functions and/or expel anyone who does not adhere to its policies.

The COVID-19 Operations and Control Center (COCC) team must be notified by either the event organizer or the unit executive if a campus visitor, either visiting campus alone or attending a meeting or event, subsequently tests positive for COVID-19.

**Acknowledgment of Risk**

There are two different acknowledgements that units may use when hosting individual visitors or group events. The most recent versions of these documents are available at <https://vpfa.psu.edu/back-to-state-2021-resources/> under “Visitors, Travel, and Meetings”:

* The “COVID-19 Information and Signage Acknowledgment” should be shared with all visitors to communicate policies and expectations. For events, this document should be placed at all venues indicating that those in attendance understand that the virus is still present in our communities and that they assume the risk of contracting the virus by attending the event.
* The “COVID-19 Acknowledgment for Penn State Programs” calls for signatures and is only required to be used for visitors under the age of 18.

**Units hosting individual visitors or group events will consider the following:**

* Communication – Units must share information with visitors about COVID guidelines and about what participants can expect at events/gatherings.
* RSVPs – Planners should maintain a list of attendees and their contact information whenever possible.

**Effective date of this guidance**

This guidance is effective as of the date listed above, as are all policies or guidelines referenced within this document. Penn State reserves the right to amend this guidance at any time at its sole discretion, including a change in virus conditions.