

Visitors to Penn State Campuses August 23, 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.

Even with adherence to 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, including those intended to mitigate the spread of transmissible illnesses.

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

Units hosting individual visitors or group events should display the following statement:

Attendance at any public event involves certain unavoidable risks such as exposure to or infection by transmissible diseases, viruses, and other illnesses (including, but not limited to, COVID-19 and its variants). Your presence at events or programs hosted by The Pennsylvania State University indicates your assumption of any and all such risk as well as your agreement to adhere to all University policies including, but not limited to, those intended to [mitigate the spread of transmissible illnesses](#). As a member of our community or guest, it is your responsibility to practice basic health, safety, and sanitation measures. The University prohibits your attendance if you are symptomatic of any commonly spread transmissible illness.

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.