COVID-19 Health Order FAQs

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OVERVIEW

We are pleased to provide you with the following frequently asked questions (FAQs) to help you understand the health requirements, implementation, and onsite execution necessary for your event. In addition to the government mandates described below, any additional COVID-19 precautions or mitigation strategies are at the discretion and possible expense of show management of events contracted in the Seattle Convention Center (SCC or the Center).

1. MANDATES AND HEALTH ORDERS

King County/City of Seattle

Public Health - Seattle & King County currently does not require verification of full vaccination status, or a negative COVID-19 test to enter indoor entertainment and recreational establishments and events such as live music, performing arts, gyms, restaurants, bars, and convention centers.

State of Washington

A statewide mask requirement has been lifted effective March 12, 2022.

U.S. Government

There are currently no requirements from the federal government. Please note: the Center has a combination of private, licensed event space as well as publicly accessible thoroughfares. This impacts how we implement certain health requirements in public areas of the venue.

1a. Are masks and vaccine verifications required for events?

- No. All mask requirements have been lifted effective March 12, 2022.

- No. All vaccine verification requirements were lifted effective March 1, 2022.

- Event staff, volunteers, service partners, Center staff, and similar employees are not currently required to verify health status during active event hours. This is subject to change pending any future regulatory guidance.

- Events may elect to require masks and/or vaccine verification. Staff scheduled to support these events may be subject to the same requirements at the request of the client. Work with your Event Manager to develop a Health & Safety plan.

1b. Does the Center require health verification for planning meetings, site visits, etc.

No, but clients may choose to require masks and vaccine verification.

1c.   Can I close the entire the facility for my event?

No, the public portion of the Center is open from 6:00 am-8:00 pm daily, with exceptions for certain holidays. This includes Galleria Levels 1-4, the International Meeting Place, and certain lobbies. Events that exceed 15,000 attendees within a single event day may request an exemption from this with a minimum of 4 months' notice.

2. MASKS

2a.   Are masks required at SCC?

No. Masks are no longer required as of March 12, 2022. Events may elect to require masks for attendees, show staff, and SCC staff while in the client's event space.

2b.   Who enforces the mask requirements?

Mask enforcement is the responsibility of the show management that has contracted the space for an event. The licensee is required to inform, monitor, and enforce mask compliance of their attendees, participants, vendors, and hired contractors.

Masks are currently not required in public areas and thoroughfares of the venue.

3. VACCINATION and TEST REQUIREMENTS

3a.   Are event participants required to provide proof of their COVID-19 vaccination status or negative COVID test result?

No. Vaccine verification and testing requirements are no longer required as of March 1, 2022. Shows may elect to require these practices and can work with their Event Manager to develop a plan to verify status or test result.

3b.   Will Center staff check vaccination cards or negative test result for event participants?

No, Center staff will not provide direct inspection of health documents. Our staff will verify a proxy credential provided by show management for access into client licensed spaces. For example, a wristband, ticket, badge, or ribbon issued once show management has verified a participant's health status. Any supplemental staffing required for health verification is at the event producer's expense and must follow established union jurisdictional rules. With certain limitations, AMR, our medical services provider, may be able to provide verification of health documents. Please review with your EM well in advance.

3c.   Can the Center schedule vaccinated-only staff to service my event onsite?

Perhaps. Under specific circumstances this may be possible. Requests for vaccinated-only service staff will be considered with a minimum of 45 days' notice but may not be approved. The

Center and its service partners have a high rate of vaccination, but not 100%. In order to provide adequate service levels, show management may incur the additional expense of vaccinated-only staff due to labor schedule rules. Large-scale events with extensive labor requirements may not be achievable with vaccinated-only staff.

3d.   Are non-vaccinated Center staff and service partners required to have a negative COVID-19 test to work?

No, at this time Center staff and its service partners are not required to be vaccinated or provide a negative test result. The Center and our service partners do record the vaccination status of each of our employees.

3e.   Can my event request that all non-vaccinated Center staff provide a negative COVID-19 test result to work at my event?

Yes, this request can be accommodated. Advance testing of non-vaccinated staff requires detailed, advance planning of no fewer than 45 days, and must be detailed by the show manager in their statement of health verification and mask compliance. Any incurred expense for testing or staff scheduling will be the responsibility of show management.

3f.   Will the Center disclose the vaccination or test status of its employees or service partners?

No. To preserve privacy, the Center and its service partners do not disclose the vaccination status or test results of individuals. Center management will issue a letter of assurance that details our process of verifying the health status of our labor force.

3g.   How does contact tracing work at the Center?

If a verifiable instance of employee COVID-19 exposure occurs at the Center, every effort for contact tracing will be made. Show management will be notified of the areas in which an affected employee performed work while onsite.

4. BEST PRACTICES

This section is intended to describe some best practices you may consider while at the Center.

4a. **How does the Center clean and disinfect the facility?**

On March 1, 2021, the Center achieved the Global Biorisk Advisory Council® (GBAC) STAR™ accreditation on outbreak prevention, response and recovery. Recognized as the gold standard of safe venues, GBAC STAR™ provides third-party validation to ensure the implementation of rigorous protocols in response to biorisk situations. For more information on the GBAC STAR facility accreditation program, visit the Global Biorisk Advisory Council website here.

4b. **Do I need to schedule additional time to clean my meeting rooms?**

Perhaps. The Center continues to provide complimentary, GBAC-standard cleaning of your meeting spaces at least once per day and overnight. If you prefer to have multiple room cleanings throughout your event, you may need to allow extra time in your session schedule to accommodate this. Supplemental room cleaning is at an extra expense. Please discuss room cleaning in advance with your EM.

4c. **Is social distancing required in my event spaces?**

No. Currently, no health orders require social distancing in event spaces, but the Center suggests providing extra space for guests to make their own choices in seating for their comfort. Examples include:

- 2 chairs per 8' table
- 4 or 5 chairs per 72" round
- Groupings of 3-5 chairs for theater seating

4d. **Does my exhibit area require one-way or wider aisles?**

No. One-way or wider aisles are not required by any current health orders. Show management may choose to implement these practices for the comfort of their participants. Several industry organizations suggest these measures as a best practice.

4e. **How are set-up days handled? Do labor crews or exhibitors need to have health verifications to set up the event?**

No. Health verification is not required for labor crews or exhibitors setting up an event.