



## **NAS COVID (SARS-CoV-2) BASE GUIDELINES**

### PRE-CONVENING

#### **Vaccination Status:**

In order to ensure the highest degree of safety, NAS requires that all in-person attendees are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Attendees are considered to be fully vaccinated if they have received 2 shots of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or one shot of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, and we strongly encourage being up to date on the boosters. We will require proof of vaccination at the event in the form of a vaccination card or a digital image of it. NAS will not permanently store any vaccination records.

Other [acceptable vaccinations for non-US participants](#) include a full vaccination cycle of the following 2-dose vaccines, and applicable additional doses:

- AstraZeneca
- Covaxin
- Covishield
- BIBP/Sinopharm
- Sinovac
- Novavax/Covovax
- Medicago

All proof of vaccination (print or digital) must have clear visibility of the following:

- Personal identifiers (full name plus at least one other identifier such as date of birth or passport number) that match the personal identifiers on the passenger's passport or other travel documents
- Name of official source issuing the record (e.g., public health agency, government agency, or other authorized vaccine provider)
- Vaccine manufacturer and date(s) of vaccinations including boosters

If a participant has a medical or sincerely held religious belief for not being vaccinated, they must contact the program's participant liaison to discuss an accommodation. Accommodations may vary from program to program.

If an online option is available, it will be the participant's responsibility to have the required internet access from the location where they participate.

#### **Testing before the event:**

Tests are a reflection of viral load at the time of administration. NAS acknowledges that a negative test one day may still mean a positive result if tested again the following day. NAS strongly recommends that participants perform a rapid antigen test the morning of their departure to confirm a negative result before traveling.



A rapid antigen test may be performed on site before participants are allowed into the facility on the first day. If this is the case, NAS will provide this rapid test onsite.

**Risk Waiver:**

All in-person event participants will be required to review, sign, and return the NAS COVID-19 Assumption of Risk Waiver prior to any in person event.

**Travel Insurance:**

NAS recommends that all participants traveling to and from an event by plane, bus, train, or other means of transportation purchase travel insurance that accommodates for travel flexibility in the event of unexpected circumstances such as illness.

**Cancellation of In-Person Event prior to start:**

NAS monitors the case rate of the area where an event will take place. If an increase in infection and hospitalization rates starts to develop two weeks prior to the event, NAS will make a call to hold the event or cancel. NAS will notify participants by email if there is an event cancellation due to a COVID-19 related cause. NAS is not responsible for participant travel expenses unless it is part of the program design.\*

DURING THE IN PERSON EVENT / CONVENING

**Cleaning and Sanitation:**

Hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes will be available at the event venue. [Shared appliances and frequently touched surfaces will be sanitized daily by a member of the NAS team.](#)

NAS asks all participants to be mindful of their surroundings and to work to maintain a healthy space. This includes routine handwashing, cleaning up after eating, etc.

**Mask Policy:**

NAS will follow state and local guidelines when it comes to mask wearing. If required by the state or local government, masks will be required. If the venue hosting NAS requires indoor masking, masks will be required. Participants should provide their own masks. KN95 masks are preferred. NAS will provide extra masks in the instance of a mask becoming unwearable.

If masks are not required by a state or local government or the hosting venue, NAS will recommend, but not require, the use of a mask indoors. NAS encourages participants to wear masks at their discretion.

**Social Distance Policy:**



NAS understands that every individual has a different level of comfort and risk tolerance when it comes to social distancing. Due to the nature of NAS events, participants will often engage in close contact through things such as learning exercises and mealtimes. If an individual is showing signs and symptoms of illness, it is recommended to stay [6-feet away](#) from that individual, regardless of vaccination status.

### **Illness:**

If anyone becomes ill during the event, they will be asked to isolate and perform a COVID-19 antigen test.

If the ill person tests negative for COVID-19, they will be asked to test again the following day. If they test negative again, NAS requests they take additional precautions such as mask wearing and social distancing until symptoms subside.

If the ill person tests positive for COVID-19, they will be asked to immediately leave the venue and [self-isolate](#).\*\* NAS may help coordinate travel for the participant. The participant is responsible for travel expenses. NAS will inform the other participants of the positive case but will not provide personal information about the participant. If an individual tests positive for COVID-19 during the event any roommate will also receive a rapid antigen test to take that day.

### **POST-CONVENING**

If a participant tests positive for COVID-19 within [5 days](#) after leaving the in-person event, we ask that the participant notifies the NAS Team of when their symptoms first developed and when they tested positive for COVID-19. NAS will then notify other participants of potential exposure, provide information of when the participant's symptoms developed and of when they tested positive. NAS will not include personal information about the participant that tested positive for COVID-19.

**Please note that these guidelines are subject to change based on updated guidance and information from appropriate US Government Agencies.**

Sources of information: CDC, WHO, CIDRAP: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu>