NATIONAL ARTS STRATEGIES, INC (NAS) COVID (SARS-CoV-2) BASE GUIDELINES

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PRE-EVENT

**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. NAS STRONGLY recommends participants receive available additional doses as advised by the CDC. 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 your vaccination record - NAS will just record that you are vaccinated.

Other acceptable vaccinations for non-US participants include a full vaccination cycle of the following 2-dose vaccines, and applicable third 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 vaccination

Participants who have not received additional doses, also known as booster shots, are welcome at the event, however, they should understand the risk for contracting COVID-19 is higher than if they receive additional doses. Participants are encouraged to wear masks and take other precautions such as social distancing when possible.

Unvaccinated participants cannot attend in-person events. Because in person events are central components of program design, NAS requires applicants to all NAS programs to be vaccinated. Proof of medical or religious exemption is required for an unvaccinated participant. Once proof is provided, NAS will provide virtual accommodation. Unvaccinated individuals that need to provide proof of exemption should contact their program’s participant liaison. It will be the participant’s responsibility to provide internet access from the location in which they participate.

Additional Vaccinations (4th Dose, Omicron Specific, etc.):

NAS will reassess its requirements as guidance from the CDC and FDA becomes available as it relates to additional doses of COVID-19 vaccines.

Testing Before the Event:

There are two main types of test for COVID-19 - diagnostic and antibody tests. NAS requires proof of a negative diagnostic test (commonly referred to as a PCR Test) that is performed within 48 hours from the start of the event. Participants are responsible for securing this test and providing the results upon arrival.

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. Additionally, 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 will be performed on site before participants are allowed into the facility on the first day. NAS will provide this rapid test.

Risk Waiver:

NAS will provide a COVID-19 Assumption of Risk Waiver for participants to review, sign, and return prior to the event. This waiver is required to participate in the event in person.
Travel Insurance:

NAS recommends that all participants traveling to and from the 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 there is a spike that 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 EVENT

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 respect the 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. 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. However, participants are welcome 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 learning/lecture, meal times, etc. 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.
Testing:

Participants will be required to self-test using a COVID-19 antigen test the last day of the event. NAS will provide this test. This is to inform the NAS team of any possible exposure or possible transmission among participants, faculty, and staff.

For events in retreat or rural or isolated settings, antigen testing should be done at least every other day. For events in suburban or urban settings, antigen testing should be done daily. NAS will work with businesses that provide testing onsite for events or supply the tests.*

If a participant develops COVID-19 symptoms during the event, they will be asked to immediately self-test using a COVID-19 antigen test provided by NAS.

Illness:

If anyone becomes ill during the event, they will be asked to isolate as much as possible 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-EVENT

Positive Test:

If a participant tests positive for COVID-19 within 5 days after leaving the in-person event, we ask that the participant notify 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.