

In light of the current surge in COVID-19 transmission, the following guidance is offered to those organizing, sponsoring and hosting university events effective January 5, 2022 through February 4, 2022. In late January, pandemic conditions will be assessed and a determination will be made about event guidelines after February 4. For the purposes of this guidance, 'event' is defined as a clinic, program, activity, camp, conference, or institute of any size. This guidance applies to events taking place in a university facility. The goal is to help ensure the health and safety of the UNL community and visitors. These guidelines reinforce key elements of the university's safety and risk mitigation efforts.

UNL recommends that events scheduled through February 4th, 2022 take place in a virtual manner when feasible.

Those events that take place in-person are encouraged to follow this guidance to structure events as safely as possible given the current rate of transmission of COVID-19. In-person events of greater than 50 people should be particularly cautious.

- Establish a capacity limit that is less than the event space allows so attendees can distance themselves from others.
- Campus face covering policy must be enforced.
- Events sponsor should require RSVPs or set a published cap on attendance to ensure that appropriate safety planning can occur.
- Registered attendees should be sent an email prior to the event outlining event safety protocols.
- Event coordinators must track attendance at the event and maintain this record for 14 days after the event. This list may be requested if contact tracing or post-event communication is needed.
- Discourage events where more than 50% of the attendees are expected to be from outside of the UNL community.
- Structure the event in a way that allows attendees to come and go throughout the event instead of requiring everyone to be there at one time.
- Avoid times when people are not wearing a face covering by limiting food and drink. If food and drink is offered at the event it should be provided as to-go or only available while seated at tables of no more than 6. If food and drink is being consumed at the event, the event sponsor should communicate this in advance to all attendees.
- Any event involving the potential for more than 500 people must be pre-approved by campus administration and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. Those requests, including risk mitigation plans ([download Excel document](#)), should be emailed to covid19@unl.edu no less than 14 days prior to the event. A response to the request can be expected approximately one week prior to the event.

Athletic and Arts Events

Athletic event protocols will be governed by UNL, Nebraska Athletics, Big Ten, and NCAA guidelines and policies. Programs held in specific venues such as the Lied Center, Carson Theatre, Sheldon Art Museum and the University of Nebraska State Museum are expected to follow their specific approved venue policies and protocols.

These guidelines may change as COVID-19 conditions evolve and in keeping with corresponding federal, state, and local measures. Any university event can be cancelled without notice at any time, even if previously approved, at the university's discretion in the interest of health and safety.