

COVID-19 Mitigation Plan for AASB's 2021 Annual Conference



AASB is committed to making all of its in-person events safe, as your health, well-being, and safety are our top priorities. All attendees are required to read this COVID-19 Mitigation Plan and agree to abide by it during AASB events. This plan was developed based on CDC, state, and local guidelines.

AASB will continually monitor local, state and federal guidelines and amend this plan as necessary.

1. **AASB's November 2021 Annual Conference registration requirements** will require one of the three items listed below:

- Proof of a COVID vaccination (presentation of your actual vaccination card or a legible photo) or:
 - Proof of a negative COVID test (PCR) within three (3) days of the start of the AASB event or:
 - A health care provider's documentation that you have had COVID within the last 90-days and are free from symptoms, including no fever within 24 hours of fever-reducing medications, has been at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared, and are not contagious for the virus but may test positive. If you cannot produce the proof listed above, you will not be admitted until the documentation is provided to AASB staff.
2. **Face coverings** are mandatory for all attendees in AASB designated areas, regardless of vaccination status and the venue's requirements. For your convenience, additional face masks will be made available at registration.
3. **Meeting Space Considerations** Conference registration, food service, and access to meeting rooms will be reconfigured to allow for maximum spacing between attendees. Where bottlenecks may occur, signage, floor stickers and staff monitoring will be used to maintain social distancing.
4. **Social Distancing/Seating** Districts will be assigned tables for general session and pre-conference trainings. Capacity for break-out sessions has been reduced to allow for greater distancing between attendees. Entrance will be on a first-come first serve basis. Adequate seating should still be available. Our most popular sessions will be hosted in larger rooms. If a breakout room has reached capacity, attendees will go to another breakout session.
5. **Sanitation and Hygiene** Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be available at all tables. Additionally, hotel staff will clean conference rooms (including tabletops and objects) on a regular basis. Attendees are asked to wash

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their hands frequently throughout the day. Anchorage Hilton is following guidelines according to their Clean Stay policies:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/corporate/cleanstay/>

6. **Health Screenings** By attending the meeting, participants are affirming they have no symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever of 100.4 degrees or above, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other CDC-identified symptoms). If you start to feel sick or display COVID-19 symptoms, do not attend any conference activities, or come within six feet of others. Please remain in your hotel room and notify AASB Conference Coordinator at jlefin@aab.org.
7. **Food and Beverage** Consumption of food and drink inside should be minimized to avoid multiple participants being unmasked at the same time. All buffets will be serviced by an attendant, and any self-serve items will be individually wrapped.
8. **Comfort Level for Person-to-Person** We know attendees may have different comfort levels when it comes to person-to-person interaction so we're providing color-coded identifiers to help you communicate your level of comfort with others, if you would like. You can pick up the color of your choice at the registration table.

RED means "Please, no physical contact."

YELLOW means "I'd like to elbow or fist bump."

GREEN means "I'm okay with high-fives and handshakes."

In the Event of Occurrence:

- According to CDC guidelines, anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 may not attend or participate in a gathering until cleared by public health.
- Anyone identified as a close contact to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 may not attend or participate during their quarantine period.
- Anyone with symptoms is not allowed to attend or participate in a gathering.

By attending AASB's in-person events, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 and agree to any posted health-related instructions.

If any attendee fails to follow these guidelines, they will be asked to leave the event and will not receive a refund.