

Revised Phase Two Guidance

Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19): Guidance for Mass Gatherings

This guidance is for people who attend a mass gathering during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you attend a mass gathering, DC Health recommends that you follow the steps below to help prevent the spread of the virus in your home and community.

General Information

- A **mass gathering** is defined as an organized and planned public event.
 - The term “mass gathering” does not include occupational activities or incidental or transient groups of people (e.g., people waiting for transit, such as at Metro station train platforms, customers in a grocery store, people in a hospital waiting room).
- Per Mayor’s Order 2020-119, issued November 23, 2020, **indoor gatherings of more than 10 people and outdoor gatherings of more than 25 people are prohibited.**
 - Exceptions to the order:
 - First Amendment activities
 - Wherever DC Health has more specific detailed guidance for the given activity (all DC Health guidance documents may be found at coronavirus.dc.gov/healthguidance)
- Gatherings may have more than the allowed number of people over the course of the event, but no more than the allowed number of people at any one time in one location.
- Gatherings may be considered to be outdoors if they are held in a structure with two or fewer walls. If a gathering is conducted in a structure with more than two walls, it is considered indoors.
- Outdoor gatherings are safer than indoor, however, **interacting with more people in any setting raises your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19, and the same prevention measures must be followed.**

Actions You Should Take

- **Do not attend a mass gathering event if you are feeling unwell.**
- Before you attend a mass gathering, download and otherwise opt-in to the **DC COVID Alert Notice system** (DC CAN) on your cellular phone. For more information visit: coronavirus.dc.gov/dccan. This must be done *before* the event to be effective.
- **Wear a cloth face covering.** You must wear a cloth face covering when leaving your home and entering public spaces or areas where you are unable to maintain 6 feet of distance from other people. Masks protect the wearer and protect other people.
- **Practice social distancing.** Keep 6 feet between you and others not from your household.
- Activities such as shouting or singing can create droplets that may spread the virus that causes COVID-19. Find alternative ways to express your message, such as through holding signs and using noise makers.
- Clean your hands often. Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Bring hand sanitizer with you, if possible.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid physical contact (handshakes, high-fives) with other people.
- Do not share items (drinking glasses, utensils, or other items).
- Clean and disinfect your belongings after the event, by laundering clothes and wiping down reusable items with a disinfectant wipe (approved for COVID-19).
- **If you are at an increased risk for complications** from COVID-19 (such as older adults or people with underlying health conditions), find alternative ways to participate that do not require you to physically attend the mass gathering.

Monitor yourself closely for symptoms of COVID-19

- Be alert for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days after attending the mass gathering.
- Symptoms can include cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever or chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Telework from home and limit activities, if possible, for 14 days after attending the mass gathering.

If you develop symptoms or are concerned you may have been exposed to COVID-19

- Get tested 3-5 days after you attend a mass gathering event.
- If you develop symptoms, consult with your healthcare provider. Call ahead and let them know of your symptoms.
- Call 911 if you have a medical emergency such as difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, or inability to arouse, bluish lips or face.
- Information on options for COVID-19 testing are available at coronavirus.dc.gov/testing.

Stay informed about the local COVID-19 situation. Please be sure to visit coronavirus.dc.gov to get the most up-to-date information.