

Safety Requirements DECA's International Diabetes Camping Conference

DECA will continue to follow federal, state, and local health official guidance for all events and will make any adjustments as necessary. These requirements align with best practices that promote the safety of our participants and staff as our guiding principle.

Document updated January 13, 2022

Safe Meetings

DECA is committed to providing opportunities to engage in the safest and most enjoyable in-person experience possible. To achieve this, we are focused on a multilayered approach to mitigating COVID-19 at all DECA in-person events. This approach may vary by location, resources available, and local guidance. With consideration to the requirements for the State of Oregon, City of Portland, and the Oregon Convention Center, the following precautions have been established out of an abundance of caution for the health, safety, and comfort of all conference attendees.

Before the Conference

DECA encourages all conference participants to modify their behavior for the seven days before the DECA Conference, reducing high-risk activities such as gathering indoors without masks, eating in public spaces, attending sporting events or other crowded venues, etc.

- Stay home if you are sick or have any [symptoms of COVID-19](#), and get tested for COVID-19.
- Those who have been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within 21 days should not attend the conference until they have [met the CDC requirements](#) for being in public spaces.

Vaccination Requirements

DECA strongly recommends that all attendees have an [up to date COVID vaccination status as defined by the CDC](#). Vaccinated participants will be required to submit a facsimile of their CDC-issued vaccination cards before gaining admittance to the conference. An up-to-date COVID vaccination status is described as follows:

- A two-dose series of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) or a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine (Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine)
- And a booster dose, if eligible

Proof of Vaccination

- A CDC-issued vaccination card including the name of the person vaccinated, the type of vaccination provided, and the date that the last dose was administered.
- A digital photo of a CDC-issued vaccination card stored on a phone or electronic device or digital proof of vaccination from a pharmacy or other healthcare provider.
- A printed photo of a CDC-issued vaccination card.
- A copy of your vaccination card via an app such as [Clear](#) or [Vaccine Check](#)

Testing Requirements

All participants and exhibitors regardless of vaccination status will be required to test within 72 hours of their first day at the DECA National Conference and show evidence of a negative test before admission to the conference. Acceptable tests for attendance are an FDA-authorized viral COVID-19 test, including a Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (such as a PCR/molecular test) or an antigen test that is collected and performed in a healthcare setting or certified testing site (i.e., not a home test). If you are unable to schedule your test in time, please contact us at the email below. Participants with a positive COVID test between November 8, 2021, and February 3, 2022, are exempt from this requirement but must provide detailed information regarding the positive test to DECA.

Proof of Negative COVID-19 Test

- A digital photo of negative COVID-19 PCR or antigen (collected and performed in a healthcare setting) test results that includes the name of the attendee, the type of test, and the test date
- A printed photo of negative COVID-19 PCR or antigen (collected and performed in a healthcare setting) test results that includes the name of the attendee, the type of test, and the test date
- A digital or printed photo of a negative at-home test administered by a [CLIA-certified](#) telehealth service that includes the name of the attendee, the type of test, and the test date

Release of Liability Agreement Requirement

Each in-person event attendee is required to read and sign the [DECA Event Attendee COVID-19 Release of Liability Agreement](#) waiver. Please download, print, and sign the waiver, and bring it with you to the event. You may also scan and email your completed waiver to info@diabetescamps.org. We will have copies of the waiver available at registration. Individuals will not be admitted to the conference without a signed waiver and either proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 PCR test timestamped within 72 hours of the first day of the conference.

During the Conference

Contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine considerations: Per CDC guidance, exposed participants who are not up to date on COVID vaccination should quarantine and not attend the conference any further until their quarantine period is over. Per CDC guidelines, exposed participants who are up to date on COVID vaccination and asymptomatic do not have to quarantine, but they will need to continue to mask at all times and eat apart from others. DECA will be following the [CDC Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines](#). It is impractical to contact trace given the various daily breakout sessions within the conference, therefore, if DECA becomes aware that a conference participant has tested positive for COVID, we will notify participants and proceed as if all participants had potential close contact to the case.

Masks: Participants and exhibitors will be required to wear face masks while indoors or when they are unable to distance outdoors. Participants are asked to only remove their masks to eat and, when doing so, distance from others by six feet or as much as possible given the situation. Appropriate masks include surgical masks, N95, KF95, and KN95 masks worn over the mouth and nose. Cloth masks and gaiters will not be acceptable. DECA will have masks available for participants who do not have an appropriate type of mask.

Self-check for symptoms: DECA encourages all participants and exhibitors to do a self-check for coronavirus symptoms each day of the conference. If participants develop symptoms consistent with COVID, they should not attend the conference until they test negative. A testing facility adjacent to the Oregon Convention Center is available for this situation.

Physical distancing: While indoors and in close proximity to others, physical distancing must be maintained. When possible, eat outdoors. If eating indoors is required, maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from other participants.

Cough and sneeze protocols: Cover coughs and sneezes and [wash hands](#) frequently.

Hotel and Meeting Space

We are adapting the traditional conference/meeting layouts to include opportunities for physical distancing when possible and will work with hotels and other venues to address site-specific issues such as adequate ventilation. DECA is working with the American Camp Association (ACA), the hotel and the Oregon Convention Center to ensure proper cleaning and sanitation. The [Oregon Convention Center has earned a GBAC Star Accreditation](#), which requires a comprehensive system of cleaning, disinfection, and infectious disease prevention for staff and the venue. You can learn more about [Hyatt's impressive cleaning and safety protocols here](#). Additionally, we will monitor local and state regulations related to group gatherings and adjust when and where necessary to maintain healthy operations.

COVID-Related Costs

Register with confidence. We want you to feel safe attending the conference and attend only if you are feeling well. If you need to cancel your registration due to COVID, we will help you transfer your registration fees to a virtual event or offer you a full refund. We are happy to work with you on registration fees paid to DECA but cannot refund any out-of-pocket expenses for transportation, lodging, or anything but registration fees.

Questions on Your Health and Safety During the Conference?

We know you might have more questions, and we're here to answer those questions and hear your thoughts on health and safety for this event. Please feel free to send health and safety questions and concerns to info@diabetescamps.org.