



March 15, 2020

## Recommendations for Events Hosting Vulnerable Populations

Governor Kate Brown has ordered the implementation of community social distancing measures recommending cancellation of events hosting more than 10 persons in high risk populations. High risk populations include older adults and those with underlying health conditions\*\*, as well as individuals without stable housing. An event is defined as any gathering in a space in which a distance of at least three feet between individuals cannot be maintained. This recommendation applies to gatherings for social, spiritual and recreational activities. This does not apply to school attendance, businesses, grocery and retail stores.

### You have an event coming up. What should you do?

Check with appropriate staff about planned training, conferences, and other gatherings happening in your buildings. Ask if persons in high risk populations are expected to attend and assist in preparation and decision-making for canceling events with 10 or more high risk attendees. Consider modifying, postponing, or cancelling your events through April 8.

- Modifications to consider:
  - Provide virtual attendance when possible
  - Post performances and content online
  - Send announcements ahead of time to remind people at high risk and people who are sick to stay home
  - Display signs encouraging hand washing
  - Provide access to hand sanitizer and sinks with water, soap and paper towels
  - Politely ask people to leave if they are sick and coughing
- Communicate to your staff and attendees that the event is canceled and why
- Consider how you might reimburse attendees

We know it is hard to cancel events that you have been planning for a long time. However, social distancing measures, such as canceling or postponing gatherings, reduce opportunities for person-to-person virus transmission and can help delay and slow the spread of the disease as well as save lives. We appreciate your help in this effort.

Together, we can minimize the impact of COVID-19 on our most vulnerable community members.

\*\* Underlying medical conditions that may increase the risk of serious COVID-19 for individuals of any age.

- Blood disorders (e.g., sickle cell disease or on blood thinners)
- Chronic kidney disease as defined by your doctor. Patient has been told to avoid or reduce the dose of medications because of kidney disease, or is under treatment for kidney disease, including receiving dialysis
- Chronic liver disease as defined by your doctor. (e.g., cirrhosis, chronic hepatitis). Patient has been told to avoid or reduce the dose of medications because of liver disease or is under treatment for liver disease.
- Compromised immune system (immunosuppression) (e.g., cancer treatment such as chemotherapy or radiation, receiving an organ or bone marrow transplant, taking high doses of corticosteroids or other immunosuppressant medications, HIV with a CD4 count <200).
- Current or recent pregnancy in the last two weeks
- Endocrine disorders (e.g., diabetes mellitus)
- Metabolic disorders (such as inherited metabolic disorders and mitochondrial disorders)
- Heart disease (such as congenital heart disease, congestive heart failure and coronary artery disease)
- Lung disease including asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (chronic bronchitis or emphysema) or other chronic conditions associated with impaired lung function or that require home oxygen
- Neurological and neurologic and neurodevelopment conditions [including disorders of the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerve, and muscle such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy (seizure disorders), stroke, intellectual disability, moderate to severe developmental delay, muscular dystrophy, or spinal cord injury].