



University of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Standards and Guidelines: Student Activities

I. Purpose

This document details the University of Pittsburgh's (University) Standards and Guidelines on Student Activities. These Standards and Guidelines are applied to each of the University's COVID-19 operational postures (High Risk, Elevated Risk and Guarded Risk). More information on these operational postures and their gating criteria can be accessed at the following website: <https://www.coronavirus.pitt.edu/operational-postures>.

The Standards and Guidelines outlined below are subject to change as deemed necessary by the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor's recommendation to the Senior Leadership Team and approval of the chancellor. Communication about the University's current Standards and Guidelines will be announced and posted on the following website: <https://coronavirus.pitt.edu/>.

The University will always operate in compliance with federal, state and local health standards and restrictions, including [Pennsylvania Department of Health guidance](#). The University reserves the right to implement additional health standards and restrictions that reflect the needs of the University and the health, safety and well-being of its community.

As conditions and circumstances change, this set of Standards and Guidelines may need to be revised.

II. Scope

The Standards and Guidelines below apply to the entire University, including all University members and campuses.

III. Definitions

- A. **Student activity:** Meetings, events, gatherings, etc. organized by/for students that are not a specific component of a particular academic course or program (not including participation in NCAA athletics by student athletes).

- B. **Student organizations:** University registered student group with student members and student leaders. Includes organizations such as clubs, societies, honoraries, club sports teams, etc.
- C. **Gathering:** As defined in the Shared Spaces Standards and Guidelines, a group of individuals in a Shared Space at a given time for a shared purpose.
- D. **Shared Space:** As defined in the Shared Spaces Standards and Guidelines, any area or location, indoors or outdoors, that is commonly used and populated by multiple individuals at the same time.
- E. **Home campus:** The University campus at which a University member is primarily assigned for work or study.
- F. **University member:** Refers to all full- and part-time faculty, staff, students, visitors, volunteers, fellows, trainees and interns on all campuses.

IV. Conduct of Student Activities

Student activities must be conducted in accordance with the University's [Health Standards and Guidelines](#), as well as Standards and Guidelines regarding [Meetings, Conferences, Events, and Guests](#), which are applicable to gatherings both on- and off-campus.

In all operational postures, meetings, events and gatherings related to student activities should be held remotely to the extent possible, and should be held in-person only when there is an identifiable function that cannot be achieved when holding the student activity remotely. In-person meetings, events and gatherings must comply with Standards and Guidelines regarding [Face Coverings](#), and must adhere to the gathering size limitations and physical distancing requirements outlined in the [Shared Spaces](#) Standards and Guidelines.

A. High Risk Posture

Student activities cannot occur in-person. Student activities that can be conducted remotely may occur.

B. Elevated Risk Posture

Student activities can only occur in-person when: (1) there is an identifiable function that cannot be achieved when conducting the activity remotely, and (2) with the permission of the relevant dean/campus president. Student activities should be held remotely to the extent possible in Elevated Risk Posture.

C. Guarded Risk Posture

Student activities may occur in-person with the permission of the relevant dean/campus president, or their designee. Student activities should be held remotely to the extent possible in Guarded Risk Posture.

V. Food/beverage as components of Student Activities

In all risk postures, any food or beverage that is provided or consumed as a component of a Student Activity must adhere to the University's [Food Service Standards and Guidelines](#).

In addition, bake sales, potlucks and buffet-style catering as components of student activities are suspended for the duration of the pandemic, until the University declares it has resumed normal operations.

VI. Travel related to Student Activities

Standards and Guidelines related to [Safe Mobility](#) are applicable to all student activities. In general, Student Activities should not involve travel away from a student's home campus.

A. High Risk Posture

Travel related to student activities cannot occur in High Risk Posture.

B. Elevated and Guarded Risk Posture

Travel related to student activities may occur in Elevated and Guarded Risk Posture provided that in each occurrence the organizer provides a health and safety plan that indicates how the travel will comply with the University's [Safe Mobility](#) Standards and Guidelines, as well as the protocol for quarantining members upon return.

The health and safety plan should be submitted to the relevant dean—the dean of students (or the individual with the equivalent role on a given campus) in many cases, or the relevant dean or campus president if the travel is related to a student activity within a school, program or academic area—a minimum of two weeks prior to the proposed travel.

An individual campus, school, unit, program or academic area can choose not to allow travel related to student activities in the Elevated Risk Posture, the Guarded Risk Posture, or both.

International travel related to student activities is generally not allowed for the duration of the pandemic, until the University declares it has resumed normal operations.

VII. Guests related to Student Activities

Any individual that visits a campus as a component of a student activity must be authorized and hosted as indicated in the Standards and Guidelines on [Meetings, Conferences, Events, and Guests](#).

In addition, outside of specific move-in and move-out periods which will be coordinated by housing personnel at each campus, only assigned residents of a building are permitted in their own University housing building.

VIII. Related Authorities, Guidance and Resources

[University Standards and Guidelines for Face Coverings, Personal Protective Equipment, and Hygiene](#)

[University Standards and Guidelines: Meetings, Conferences, Events, and Guests](#)

[University Standards and Guidelines: Shared Spaces](#)

[University Standards and Guidelines: Food Service](#)

[University Standards and Guidelines: Safe Mobility](#)

Registered Student Organization Handbook (Pittsburgh campus)

Student handbooks for regional campuses

XI. Contact Information and Public Accessibility

This document is posted on the University of Pittsburgh COVID-19 Standards and Guidelines website and can be found at: <https://www.policy.pitt.edu/university-policies-and-procedures/covid-19-standards-and-guidelines>. For questions related to this document, please contact: Resilience Steering Committee at ResilienceSteeringCommittee@pitt.edu.