

CGS COVID Health and Safety Information

At CGS our members' health and safety is our highest priority. We are aware of public health concerns and want to provide a safe opportunity to gather in-person, while doing our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19, at the CGS Annual Meeting.

To that end, we have been closely following local restrictions and evolving COVID-19 levels and protocols in the city of New Orleans. At this time, vaccination levels in New Orleans compare well with other US cities at 74% of adults being fully vaccinated as of September 15, 2021. Further, as of Monday, August 16, 2021, the city of New Orleans is requiring everyone 12 years of age and older entering various facilities (restaurants, bars, gyms, indoor group fitness centers, indoor sports and entertainment venues, reception halls, etc.) to provide evidence of having received at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine or evidence of a negative PCR test, taken no more than 72 hours prior to entering.

To help ensure a safe meeting, we ask all meeting attendees, employees, exhibitors, vendors, and guests, to confidentially attest to the following:

- I am fully vaccinated against COVID-19 with a WHO-approved vaccine **OR** I have a negative PCR test within the past 72 hours, and can produce photo or paper verification on request.
- I will comply with all mask requirements established by CGS, which will follow the guidance of the CDC, as well as any additional requirements set by the local government at the time of the conference. (Masks covering the nose and mouth are currently required in all indoor public areas in New Orleans except when actively eating. Masks are mandated regardless of vaccination status.)
- I will follow any safety guidelines, including social distancing, as implemented by CGS, local government and/or the Sheraton Hotel New Orleans.
- I agree not to attend the meeting if I experience any COVID-19 symptoms or learn I have tested positive for COVID-19 within 72 hours prior to the event. I further understand that CGS will fully refund my conference registration in this case.
- If I begin experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms or receive a positive test result while attending the meeting, I will alert the CGS meeting staff and agree to follow the protocols set in place by CGS.
- I agree not to attend the meeting if I learn that I have recently come into close contact (defined as being within six feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or longer) with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. If I learn of such close contact while attending the meeting, I agree to leave the meeting immediately.
- I agree to cooperate with any contact tracing efforts in the event I test positive for or am exposed to COVID-19 while attending the conference.

We will continue to monitor guidelines issued by the CDC as well as the local government in New Orleans and will adjust our plans and policies if necessary as the situation evolves.