

ILEA Napa-Sonoma Summary on Gathering Guidelines

As of April 15, 2021

Part 1: Overview

As of today, April 15th private events and meetings can occur indoors and outdoors, with modifications. Sonoma County and Napa County are in the Orange Tier and those allowances are as follows:

- **Gatherings** such as social, informal gatherings (no defined guest list required | no testing or vaccination required)
 - 50 people in the Orange Tier
 - Indoor gatherings are strongly discouraged in all tiers but are allowed with modifications and capacity limits in the Red, Orange, and Yellow tiers
- Private events or meetings such as receptions or conferences, with pre-purchased tickets or a defined guest list and assigned seating
 - Outdoor:
 - Attendance must be limited to a maximum of 100.
 - If attendees show proof of negative test or full vaccination, then a maximum of 300 people.
 - Attendance limits include all staff and volunteers working at the event.
 - Indoors:
 - Attendance must be limited to a maximum of 150 people. All attendees must show proof of negative test or full vaccination.

The CDPH has released guidance outlining additional detail regarding what is allowed/restricted, which pair to the capacity allowances that were previously announced by the State for private events and meetings. Based on the initial review, we find there to be many unanswered questions and unclarified allowed or restricted activities. To that end, we will continue to communicate updates as additional details are released and in support of our destinations return to in-person events.

While future updates will be shared if/as we receive clarifications and additional detail, the newly released guidance is available for you to access [here](#). The following outline highlights the core guidance:

- Require at all tiers:

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- Attendance at Private Events and Venues must be limited to a pre-determined attendee list.
- Employers who have employees working at a private event must develop a worker COVID-19 testing program for weekly optional testing of all workers who may encounter other employees. PCR or antigen are permissible diagnosis tests for workers/performers where the interval between tests is no greater than seven days. For workers returning to work where the interval between a prior test has been greater than seven days after receiving a prior test, only a PCR test is permissible.
 - Workers participating in routine weekly testing or showing proof of full vaccination are NOT counted toward any occupancy capacity limit.
 - All workers not participating in a routine weekly testing program or not fully vaccinated shall count toward any occupancy limit.
- Use of face coverings is mandatory unless actively eating and/or drinking.
 - Guests who do not comply should be removed from the event immediately.
- Entry and exit should be tightly controlled to prevent concentrations of people at entry and exit.
- If buffet style dining or bar service is provided, food and drink must be served to guests (no self-service) and all guests must maintain physical distancing and face coverings.
 - Event attendees and workers are only permitted to eat and drink at designated areas.
- Live entertainment is permitted at events, ceremonies, receptions, etc. but must follow all relevant guidance for [Outdoor Seated Live Events and Performances Guidance](#) or Indoor Seated Live Events and Performances.
- Private event operators must allow for at least two hours between events to prevent mixing across attendees.
- Assigned seating is required to control mixing and permit physical distancing of at least 6 feet between people from different households.
 - People who are fully vaccinated do not need to be 6 feet apart in accordance with the Addendum to Blueprint Activity & Business Tiers Chart – Tested and Fully Vaccinated Individuals and Sections.
- Physical distancing between and amongst vendors (e.g., photographers, florists, etc.), officiants, and other event workers and event attendees must be maintained at all times. Photographers should use lenses that allow for physical distancing.
- Refer to CDPH Travel Advisory for all guests and attendees.
- Refer to the Addendum to Blueprint Activity & Business Tiers Chart – Tested and Fully Vaccinated Individuals and Sections for guidance on testing and vaccination requirements.

Finally, we will continue to share resources as they are available; however, the following are a few resources that support some of the required inclusions:

- [Employer Playbook](#)
- Employee Testing Program – Partner with the [County](#) for resources
- Vaccination/Testing Tracking Tools: [iScreen](#), [CrowdPass](#)

Again, we will continue to keep you updated as additional details are released, to ensure you and your team have the support needed to resume meetings and events responsibly and safely.

Please share your questions with our team, as we will work to uncover those additional details. Please also continue to let us know if there is any support that you may need while you navigate the restrictions and allowances in returning to in-person events.

Part 2: More Detail and More Questions

- Host Responsibility for Test Results/Vaccination Verification:
 - The venue is the "host"; except for residential events, where the homeowner is host.
 - Vaccination and testing verification prior to arrival onsite should be processed through an encrypted portal, and verifiable.
 - HIPPA compliance must be respected.
- Mask Requirement/Removal of Guest Not Adhering:
 - Vaccinated guests must adhere, just as non-vaccinated guests.
 - Responsibility of enforcement falls to the host and can be a hired role, such as: security, COVID compliance officers, pandemic advisors.
- Receptions/Cocktail Hour:
 - Requirement of seated reception or bars being disallowed was removed from the prior draft; however, the expectation is that lines are mitigated; eating and drinking is stationary at assigned seat or in a specific section; masks are on anytime you are mobile or outside of your "household cohort".
 - Appetizer food station are allowed if manned like the buffet requirement; however, the plate receive must be taken back to assigned seat/designated section.
- Buffet:
 - Being allowed when served by food service provider, as it matches the allowance at restaurants.
 - The intention is that the buffet is visited by each household cohort not commingled.
- Dancing:
 - Removed from the prior draft was a statement that dancing is allowed if restricted it to a specific section and therefore it is presumed to be allowed; however, it is not a full green light and must tread cautiously.
 - When allowing, it is while adhering to the requirement, such as: that guests are in masks at all times except when eating/drinking; that eating/drink occurs at assigned seat/designated area; vaccinated guests are distanced from non-vaccinated guests.
- Tenting:
 - See restaurant guidance, outdoor guidelines apply if no two walls are contiguous; when two walls are connected it falls within the indoor guidance.
- Employee Safety and Employer Liability
 - Protection of your employees, avoiding potential for risk and liability as a business owner, even though the client is paying for a service, as regardless who's responsibility it is to verify/manage adherence if you have employees at the event, you have employer liability.
 - Safe working environment should be written into your contract, covering you in the event of clients and guests not adhering and you as the vendor/venue reserve the right to terminate service at the cost of the client.

Referenced above is the April 13th addendum to the [Blueprint for Safer Economy Framework for Tiers & Business Activities](#) regarding Tested and Fully Vaccinated Individuals and Sections, which includes:

- FULLY VACCINATED VISITORS AND SPECTATORS
 - Fully vaccinated persons from out of state may visit or attend activities or events that are restricted to in-state visitors. Fully vaccinated persons should consult the current CDPH Travel Advisory and adhere to any applicable recommendations.
- FULLY VACCINATED WORKERS
 - Where capacity limits exist, fully vaccinated workers do not count toward any occupancy capacity limit.
- VENUES WITH FULL TESTING/VACCINATION – CAPACITY BONUS

- o Venues that have fully vaccinated or tested negative attendees only may increase their capacity as follows unless a different capacity limit is specified for that sector in the grid. Venues may not use the capacity bonus below if any section of the venue includes attendees that do not show proof of negative test or show proof of full vaccination.

Tier 1 Widespread	Tier 2 Substantial	Tier 3 Moderate	Tier 4 Minimal
Existing capacity limits apply	Existing capacity limits apply	Outdoor: Existing capacity limits apply Indoor: Venues may increase capacity by an additional 50%, up to a maximum of 50% of total venue capacity.	Outdoor: Existing capacity limits apply Indoor: Venues may increase capacity by an additional 50%, up to a maximum of 75% of total venue.

VACCINATED-ONLY SECTIONS – DISTANCING AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Fully Vaccinated-only sections must be separate, distinct, and clearly marked from any other section of the venue that is set aside for tested attendees.
- Individuals in the Fully Vaccinated-only sections do not have to be physically distanced. Face coverings are required.
- Fully Vaccinated-only sections may be seated at full capacity within that section only. Suites may also operate at 100% of suite capacity if all guests show proof of full vaccination. However, capacity for the venue must not exceed the limits established above.
- There must be at least 12 feet of distance between the Fully Vaccinated-only sections and any other section in the venue.

TESTING AND VACCINATION STATUS – DEFINITIONS AND VERIFICATION

1. Tested-only section:
 - a. Definition: Attendees who have tested negative and seated in a section with other attendees who have tested negative. Testing must be conducted within 72 hours before event start time, if using PCR. Antigen tests are acceptable and must be conducted within 24 hours of start of the event. Results of the test must be available prior to entry into the event or venue.
 - b. Verification: The following are acceptable as proof of a negative COVID-19 test result: printed document (from the test provider or laboratory) OR an email or text message displayed on a phone or electronic device from the test provider or laboratory. The information provided should include name of person tested, type of test performed, and date of negative test result (for PCR, date of negative result must be within prior 72 hours; for antigen, date of negative result must be within prior 24 hours)
2. Vaccinated-only section:
 - a. Definition: Fully vaccinated attendees seated in a section with other fully vaccinated attendees. People are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 at ≥ 2 weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or ≥ 2 weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen) Children (> 2 years of age) who are not eligible to be vaccinated may sit with their parent, guardian, or sponsor in the Fully Vaccinated only sections if they are tested. Children younger than 2 do not need to be tested and may also sit with their parent, guardian, or sponsor in the Fully Vaccinated-only section. Children sitting with the parent, guardian or sponsor in a Fully Vaccinated-only section are considered for purposes of social distancing to be fully vaccinated.
 - b. Verification: The following are acceptable as proof of full vaccination: Vaccination card (which includes name of person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided, and date last dose administered) OR a photo of a vaccination card as a separate document OR a

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photo of the attendee's vaccine card stored on a phone or electronic device OR documentation of vaccination from a healthcare provider.

Also referenced above is the [CDPH Travel Advisory](#), which as of April 2, includes:

- All travelers arriving in or returning to California from other states or countries should follow [CDC travel guidance](#).
- All travelers who test positive or develop symptoms of COVID-19 should isolate and follow public health recommendations.
- Fully vaccinated travelers:
 - are less likely to get and spread COVID-19, and can travel safely within the United States and California
 - should follow CDC travel guidance and are not required to test or quarantine before or after travel unless they have symptoms concerning for COVID-19 disease.
- Non-Essential Travel of unvaccinated persons [i]
 1. Except in connection with essential travel[iii], Californians should avoid non-essential travel outside of California, to other states or countries unless they are fully vaccinated. Avoiding travel reduces the risk of virus transmission, including by reducing the risk that new sources of infection and, potentially, new virus strains will be introduced to California.
 2. Non-essential travelers from other states or countries, are strongly discouraged from entering California, and should adhere to the quarantine procedures set forth below.
 3. Non-essential travelers who are not fully vaccinated should get tested with a viral test 1-3 days before travel and get tested 3-5 days upon arrival to their destination. They should stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if their test is negative.
 4. Non-essential travelers who are not fully vaccinated and do not get tested should stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- [i] "Non-essential travel" includes travel that is considered tourism or recreational in nature.
- [iii] "Essential travel" is travel associated with the operation, maintenance, or usage of critical infrastructure or otherwise required or expressly authorized by law (including other applicable state and local public health directives), including work and study, critical infrastructure support, economic services and supply chains, health, immediate medical care, and safety and security. Persons who routinely cross state or country borders for essential travel do not need to quarantine.

In summary, the guidance notes that private event operators have several operational aspects and service offerings available in other guidance on the Industry Guidance to Reduce Risk website. Such operations may include:

- Hotels and lodging (see [Hotels, Lodging, and Short-Term Rentals Guidance](#))
- Trams, shuttles, and other transit ([Public and Private Passenger Carriers, Transit, and Intercity Passenger Rail Guidance](#))
- Limit shuttle service whenever possible and in accordance with obligations to individuals with disabilities.
- Grounds, building maintenance, custodial services ([Limited Services Guidance](#))
- Live Performance (see [Outdoor Seated Live Events and Performances](#) or Indoor Seated Live Events and Performances)
- Places of worship and cultural ceremonies (see [Places of Worship and Cultural Ceremonies](#))

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