

## STFM Health and Safety Policy for Conference and Event Attendees

*Effective: September 15, 2021*

To mitigate risk to attendees at in-person conferences and events, effective September 15, 2021, the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) requires attestation of COVID-19 full vaccination for admittance to STFM in-person conferences and events. This requirement does not include an expectation of receiving a COVID-19 booster vaccination currently.

STFM also requires attendees to submit an attestation of personal responsibility upon registering for an event and to comply with all state, local, and/or facility mask mandates, as well as any safety requests from organizers.

For attendees who have requested a COVID-19 vaccination exemption for religious or medical reasons, the following requirements apply:

- Attendees must present negative COVID-19 test results no more than 72 hours prior to event arrival. The test must be administered by another medical professional, and the original test results must be presented as received. Exceptions to the 72-hour requirement will be considered only for individuals who experience travel delays beyond their control.
- Attendees with COVID-19 vaccination exemptions must comply with health and safety protocols specific to the event, including but not limited to, masking and social distancing requirements.

### **Attendee COVID-19 Vaccination Attestation**

In conjunction with the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Board of Directors and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, STFM has outlined new requirements associated with conference and event attendance within the *STFM Health and Safety Policy for Conference and Event Attendees*.

Along with the coordination and implementation of increased health and safety measures at on-site conferences and events, STFM requires all attendees, exhibitors, partners, and staff to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to attending. While vaccinations, observance of safety protocols, and exercise of personal discipline may reduce risk, an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 does remain a possibility in connection with any public gathering. Accordingly, as a condition of event attendance, please check the box below to indicate your acknowledgement of and agreement to the following:

It is understood that COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. I acknowledge our organization's desire and voluntary choice to travel to and participate in this STFM conference and/or event. Our organization assumes responsibility for our staff and accepts the risk of being exposed, contracting, and/or spreading COVID-19 to attend the STFM conference and/or event. Specifically, we assume all risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury (including, but not limited to, personal injury, illness, disability, and death) that we may experience in connection with attendance, and we hereby waive, release, and hold harmless STFM, and its employees, agents, contractors, and representatives from any claims, liabilities, actions, damages, losses, costs, or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating to our attendance. We agree to follow all instructions and safety precautions posted or provided by STFM, the conference and/or event venue, and/or any governing authority during conference and/or event attendance (ex. wearing masks in all meeting areas). It is understood and agreed that our failure to do so may result in our organization being excluded from the event without refund, reimbursement, or other remuneration.

[  ] I have read and agree to the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine's COVID-19 acknowledgement, waiver, and release and attest that all staff representing our organization at an STFM conference and/or event are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## STFM COVID-19 Conference and Event Protocol

- All event/conference attendees must be fully vaccinated.
- All event/conference attendees must complete an “Attestation Statement” as a part of the registration process.
- All event/conference attendees who register for on-site registrants must complete an “Attestation Statement” as a part of the registration process.
- Any attendee not completing the “Attestation Statement” may not register and/or attend the conference and/or event.
- All event/conference attendees must wear masks during all meetings and activities.
- STFM is coordinating with facility staff to provide safe physical distancing during all meetings and events, including options for meals and other events with food and beverages, to ensure a safe environment for attendees. This may include boxed “to go” meals or options that provide alternate dining choices and dining areas.
- STFM will provide updates from the conference and/or event facilities regarding any change in COVID protocols and/or policies, especially as they conduct other events prior to ours. Complete details regarding the facility’s COVID-19 safety protocol can be found [here](#).
- STFM reserves the right to reschedule or cancel conferences and/or events to ensure the safety of attendees and staff.

### *Before Leaving Home:*

- Follow relevant guidance provided by the World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and/or your local health authority
- Adhere to government-issued travel restrictions and guidance issued by the region to where you are travelling and from where you are travelling.
- Evaluate your own health and those with whom you are in close contact; contact the conference and/or event organizers if you have concerns.
- Stay home if you are sick.

### *During the Conference and/or Event:*

- Follow guidance from your local health authority for everyday actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:
  - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-based sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
  - Avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, disposing of used tissues immediately.
  - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Agree to wear a mask or facial covering, if required by conference and/or event organizers.
- Adhere to social distancing protocols put in place by event organizers and respect the personal space of others.
- Notify conference staff at any time at the conference registration desk if you feel unwell or are experiencing flu-like symptoms.