



Special Recreation Participants  
Fall 2021 Covid-19 Safety Guidelines

*The below guidelines will go into effect on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 and are subject to change.*

- General
  - Prior to arriving to programs, all participants will be asked to complete a self-screening of COVID-19 symptoms by asking the following questions:
    - Have you had a body temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit or have you used a fever reducer in the previous 24 hours to treat a body temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit?
    - Do you have a new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
    - Do you have a new shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
    - Have you recently developed a complete loss of smell or taste?
  - When participating in programs indoors all participants, regardless of their vaccination status, are required to wear a face covering that fully covers the nose and mouth while maintaining 3 - 6 feet of social distancing. The only exceptions being when participants are actively eating, drinking or swimming.
  - When participating in programs outdoors face coverings are optional for all participants while maintaining 3 - 6 feet of social distancing.
    - If social distancing is not able to be maintained all participants are required to wear a mask, regardless of their vaccination status.
  - All participants must be able to maintain 3 - 6 feet of social distancing throughout the program. To protect participants and those they interact with, participants who cannot meet this expectation will be removed from programs.
  - Regardless of vaccination status, participants should NOT come to programs if they:
    - Answered yes to any of the self-screening questions
    - Exhibit any symptoms of illness including but not limited to fever, runny nose, cough, body aches and nausea. Anyone who exhibits signs of illness will be sent home. *Participants displaying symptoms attributed to a noncontagious condition such as allergies will need to provide a doctor's note stating such.*
    - Have tested positive for COVID-19 or are awaiting test results
    - Have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive or exhibited COVID-19 symptoms within the last 10 days.
  - If a participant displays symptoms of illness during programs they will be removed from the group, and will be required to leave the facility within 30 minutes of notification.
    - If a participant did not transport themselves, they will need to be picked-up within 30 minutes of notification.
  - If a participant does exhibit COVID-19 symptoms or tests positive, program staff will notify all the affected participants and their families.
  - Daily attendance of participants will be used to ensure proper contact tracing.

- Participants must be able to perform all personal care (hygiene, toileting, eating, dressing, etc.) independently with no hands-on assistance. To protect participants and those they interact with, participants who cannot meet this expectation will be removed from the program.
- Participants must be able to be successful in a 10:1 (participant to staff) ratio and devoid of emotional or physical outbursts that require 1:1 staffing support. Participants must be able to stay within close proximity to the group and refrain from elopement and wandering. To protect participants and those they interact with, participants who cannot meet these expectations will be removed from the program.
- For participants that may require additional assistance to successfully participate in programs and for more information regarding the Inclusion Services assessment process please refer to the Inclusion Services COVID-19 Guidelines.
- Participants are not to share personal items (electronic devices, toys, books, etc.) or food.
- Programs will ensure adequate supplies and equipment to minimize the sharing of high-touch materials as much as possible.
- Cleaning and Disinfecting
  - Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected before and after use.
  - All equipment will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each use.
  - Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be readily available to all participants.
- Pick-up/Drop-off
  - If a participant is being picked-up or dropped-off, they must be able to meet at the designated participant check-in location independently upon arrival and wait for their ride independently upon dismissal.
    - If a participant cannot meet at the designated check-in location independently upon arrival and find their ride independently upon dismissal a parent or caregiver must accompany them to and from the pick-up and drop-off location.
  - If participant utilizes PACE or taxi services for transportation, they must be able to meet at the designated participant check-in location independently upon arrival and wait for their PACE/taxi independently upon dismissal.
- Food and Drink
  - All participants will wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer prior to eating
  - While eating participants will maintain a distance of 3 - 6 feet from others. If weather allows, meal/snack times will take place outdoors.
  - Participants will maintain their own personal water bottles. Participants should come with an adequate amount of water to last the entirety of the program. Drinking fountains will not be available for use.
- Swimming
  - Regardless of vaccination status, all participants are required to wear a face covering when outside of the water/pool including when on the pool deck and while in the locker rooms.
  - All participants are expected to maintain 3-6 feet of social distancing while in the pool.
  - Spectators are discouraged.
  - High contact surfaces in the pool will be sanitized regularly by lifeguards.
  - Participants will be allowed to borrow pool equipment. Equipment will need to be sanitized after each use.
  - Pool capacity for family swim times will be reduced by 50% to allow for social distancing.
  - Pool capacity for adult swim classes will be reduced to 16 participants for a standard 6-lane pool to allow for social distancing.

- Any staff working with youth participants while in the water must wear a face shield.
- Travel
  - When traveling to non-Chicago Park District facilities (example: a bowling alley) participants are expected to continue to follow all Chicago Park District COVID-19 guidelines regardless of the guidelines in place at the facility.
- Transportation
  - When riding a bus provided by the Chicago Park District participants are expected to wear a face covering while on the bus. The face covering must be in place before boarding the bus and cannot be removed until after completely off the bus. Participants are also expected to continue to follow all Chicago Park District COVID-19 guidelines regardless of the guidelines put in place by the bus company.
  - When riding in a van provided by the Chicago Park District participants are required to wear a face covering while in the van. The face covering must be in place before getting in the van and cannot be removed until after completely out of the van.