

NESEA’s in-person gathering policy is based on the CDC’s definition of community transmission of COVID-19 and includes all counties that event attendees originate from. This policy is intended to be used as a guide for event organizers to use in their decision making process about whether or not an in-person event can occur.

[Levels of Community Transmission](#) of COVID-19 as defined by the CDC:

- Low: <10 cases per 100,000 people or <5% positive NAATs tests in the last 7 days
- Moderate: 10-49.99 cases per 100,000 people or 5-7.99% positive NAATs tests in the last 7 days
- Substantial: 50-99.99 cases per 100,000 people or 8-9.99% positive NAATs tests in the last 7 days
- High: >100 cases per 100,000 people or >10% positive NAATs tests in the last 7 days

To use these guidelines:

1. Select all the event characteristics that apply, use the most stringent safety protocols attributed to a particular event characteristic.
2. Choose the highest community transmission rate represented by at least one attendee.
3. Locate the community transmission rate by county, [use this map](#).
4. Six or more weeks before the scheduled event date: evaluate feasibility of event based on required safety protocols and make a decision about the structure of the event moving forward (in person vs virtual). (As an event draws closer, if transmission rates increase, the structure of the event would change accordingly.)
5. Note: venue requirements supersede NESEA’s requirements in the event that they are more stringent.

Yes/ No	Event Characteristic	Low	Moderate	Substantial	High
	Closed event	No safety protocols required.	No safety protocols required.	Vaccination or negative test ¹ required.	Vaccination or negative test required.
	Public event	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test and mask required.	Vaccination and mask required.
	<25 people	No safety protocols required.	No safety protocols required.	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test required.
	>25 people	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test and mask required.	Vaccination required and mask required.
	Outdoor	No safety protocols required.	No safety protocols required.	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test required.
	Outdoor Meals	No safety protocols required.	No safety protocols required.	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test required.
	Indoor	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination required, masks when not eating or drinking required.	Vaccination required, masks when not eating or drinking required.
	Indoor Meals	Vaccination or negative test required.	Vaccination or negative test required. Unvaccinated individuals must socially isolate while unmasked.	Vaccination required.	Vaccination required.

¹ Accepted tests: NAATs negative test results received within 72 hours of event start date. When rapid antigen tests become more readily available we will integrate them into the framework.
Last updated Nov. 1, 2021