



## COVID Safety

Creating a healthy and safe environment for all participants, presenters, and staff of the 2021 Teacher Leader Summit is of utmost importance and concern to the Department. In order to reduce risk and limit exposure the following protocols will be implemented.

### **Prior to the Convention Center:**

- Entry points have been reduced to two locations:
  - the lobby doors facing the River Walk and
  - the lobby doors at Hall G by the transportation hub.
- All participants, presenters, and staff will complete a [COVID symptom](#) screening daily and upon any reentry. The COVID symptom screening will include:
  - a temperature check,
    - All temperatures must be below 100.4 degrees.
    - Any person with a temperature will be denied admission, unable to attend any subsequent days of the event, and refunded the cost of their ticket within 14 business days in a prorated manner.
  - answering a few questions via a third party representative,
    - Questions could be to confirm you have no pending COVID test results, have not traveled out of the country recently, and are not experiencing any COVID related symptoms.
  - ensuring a [CDC approved facial covering](#) is being worn in the proper manner, and
    - CDC does not recommend using face shields or goggles as a substitute for masks.
      - Thus, if a face shield is worn, a mask must also be worn.
  - ensuring each person is treated with dignity and respect.

### **What the Convention Center is Doing:**

Creating a healthy and safe environment for all participants is of utmost importance and concern to LDOE and NOENMCC. NOENMCC has been rated Global Biohazard Advisory Council (GBAC) STAR Facility. This means NOENMCC has implemented a comprehensive system of cleaning, disinfection, and infectious disease prevention for their staff and their building. At present, it is the only outbreak prevention certification offered by the cleaning industry.

Following STAR protocol means that a facility has:

- Established and maintained a cleaning, disinfection, and infectious disease prevention program to minimize risks associated with infectious agents like the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2).
- The proper cleaning protocols, disinfection techniques, and work practices in place to combat biohazards and infectious disease.
- Highly informed cleaning professionals who are trained for outbreak and infectious disease preparation and response.

On their [website](#), NOENMCC outlines the health and safety steps they have put into place.



**Once Inside the Convention Center:**

- Enforcement of social distancing will be followed. Dedicated staff will be on-hand monitoring social distancing at all times.
  - This includes while in line, the registration area, at the Resource Fair, while in sessions, while navigation hallways and common areas, and while frequenting the restrooms.
- An EMT will be onsite for the duration of the event should someone become ill or start exhibiting symptoms.
- All water coolers have been removed. Water fountains have also been turned off.
- Capacity on escalators will be limited.
- Seating in each session will be done socially distanced.
- Enforcement of the wearing of CDC approved facial coverings at all times will be followed.
  - Participants and staff must wear proper facial coverings while in sessions and seated.
    - Presenters may remove their facial coverings while presenting.
  - Everyone must wear proper facial coverings while walking around hallways, common areas, and in the restroom.
  - Proper facial coverings may only be removed when seated at a table in the Atrium or Dining Hall (Halls C & D) and a person is actively eating and/or drinking.
    - If no eating or drinking is taking place, a proper facial covering must be worn.
    - Lunches will be boxed and individually packaged.

Please contact [LDOEEvents@la.gov](mailto:LDOEEvents@la.gov) with any questions, comments, or concerns