

American Vacuum Society New Mexico Chapter (AVS NM) 2022 Short Course Health & Safety Plan

To promote the safety of everyone attending AVS NM 2022 short courses, we will monitor the guidance and requirements of the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), State of New Mexico, the [New Mexico Department of Health](#), and the [World Health Organization](#) regarding COVID-19 safety practices. Therefore, this Health & Safety Plan may change from time to time through the last day of AVS NM Short Courses (June 9, 2022).

The hotel facility has implemented a variety of new protocols and elevated practices, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and keeping with our high standards of cleanliness and commitment to providing excellent service. They have also made a few adjustments to the services, amenities, and facilities available during your stay.

Mask wearing will be in accordance with local, state and CDC guidelines.

IMPORTANT: In light of events surrounding COVID-19, this is an appropriate time to remind ourselves of the risks incident to attending the short courses. Even with every reasonable precaution to keep you safe as outlined for you by the CDC, the AVS NM Chapter cannot fully eliminate all risks of harm to attendees or guarantee their safety, especially from risks posed by COVID-19 or its variant strains. **Ultimately, you are responsible for your own safety.**

Deciding to Attend:

- Anyone having underlying COVID-19-related risk factors should not attend.
- Anyone exhibiting any symptoms or signs of sickness or who has been in contact with known positive COVID-19 cases should not attend.
- Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days from the start of AVS NM 2022 should not attend.
- Anyone who refuses to meet the requirements listed below should not attend.

WHAT WE ARE DOING FOR YOUR SAFETY:

REQUIREMENTS:

- **Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination or Negative COVID Test Required:** Each attendee must provide either their COVID-19 vaccination card (physical or photo) and ID (physical) or a negative COVID-19 test (physical or photo) and ID (physical) at registration. All on-site AVS NM staff, instructors and attendees must be in compliance with this rule. No exceptions.
 - If providing proof of vaccination, the vaccine card (physical or photo) must show both the first and second dose of Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna vaccines or the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Mixed vaccines will also be accepted (one dose of Moderna and one dose of Pfizer). Vaccines approved by the World Health Organization (WHO)/CDC will also be accepted. Please note that your final vaccine must be

administered at least two weeks prior to the first day of AVS NM short courses, June 6, 2022. You must also show your ID (physical).

- If providing COVID-19 test results, you must show a negative result (physical or photo), dated within 24 hours if Antigen test, or 48-72 hours if PCR test before the date of admission (no home tests). You must also show your ID (physical).
- **Face Masks:** Face masks will be worn in accordance with local, state and CDC guidelines for the week of the class. An acceptable mask is made of at least two layers of breathable fabric or hospital grade material; fully covers the nose, nostrils, and mouth; fits firmly under the chin; and fits snugly, but comfortably against the side of the face.
- **Social Distancing:** Be mindful of the social distancing protocols and compliant with all posted instructions and signage.
- **Emergency Contact Number:** All attendees are required to provide a working mobile phone number to AVS NM in case staff are notified by any government or local health department that contact tracing is required.
- **Waiver Form:** All Registrants are required to review and accept the AVS NM Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability statement prior to registering:

Please review the following AVS NM Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Statement. You must accept the statement details outlined in order to be able to complete your registration. If you have any questions about the statement, please contact the AVS NM short course coordinator at the following address: dadams205@comcast.net. CDC= Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

AVS NM Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Statement: By checking the “I Accept” button below, I, on my behalf and on behalf of each individual included in this registration (“Registrant”), acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that we may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by accessing AVS NM Short Courses in 2022 (“Event”) in-person and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. As such, I accept the terms of this Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability. Registrants understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID19 may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, the American Vacuum Society New Mexico Chapter’s staff and instructors, the hotel facility, their respective employees, agents, contractors, volunteers, staff, and other Event participants. Registrants agree to abide by all preventative measures (collectively “Measures”) put in place by AVS NM staff, the hotel facility, their respective employees, agents, contractors, and volunteers at any time prior to and during the Event including, but not limited to, providing proof of COVID-19 vaccination and or negative PCR or Antigen test, wearing an acceptable mask in accordance with local, state and CDC guidelines, maintaining social distancing from other Event participants, and promptly notifying AVS NM if any registrant experiences symptoms of COVID-19 during the Event. Registrants acknowledge that personal failure to follow these Measures may result in being removed from the Event and all related activities without any refund or reimbursement. Finally, Registrants acknowledge that no promises, representations, or affirmations of fact were made to me concerning the safety or danger associated

with traveling to the Event or participating in any activity or interaction related to or associated with the Event. I have reviewed and accept the AVS NM 2022 Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Statement

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ENTRY & SYMPTOM EVALUATIONS:

- Attendees must adhere to the requirements of any signage and any directives from AVS NM staff given onsite during the event. Failure to do so could result in the denial of entry or removal from the venue altogether without refund.
- AVS NM reserves the right to deny such entry to anyone seeking admittance or to remove them from the venue should they present with any COVID-19 like symptoms or refuse to wear a mask while indoors whether vaccinated or not. No refunds will be given, and such conduct may disqualify such individuals from attending future AVS NM meetings or short courses.

In addition, AVS NM 2022 will be implementing the following safety measures in addition to the enhanced hotel cleaning protocols in each class room:

ALL AREAS:

- Handshaking, hugging, or other unnecessary person-to-person contact will be discouraged between all participants.
- AVS NM may remind participants through appropriate signage and/or verbal communications.

REGISTRATION AREA:

- Requirement of pre-registration in order to minimize lines in Registration Area
- Limited Conference handouts or material bins
- Hand sanitizer stations in hallway

COURSE ROOMS:

- Socially distanced seating where feasible

OTHER RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES

TRAVELING TO ATTEND:

- Airline Policies: Check with your airline to make sure you understand their policies and requirements.

QUICK FACTS/Q&A:

1. By what date do I need to be vaccinated by in order to gain entrance into AVS NM 2022 Short Courses?

As of December 17, 2021, participants are considered fully vaccinated two weeks (14 days) after they have completed either the second dose in a two-dose series (e.g., Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca) or after a single dose of a one-dose vaccine (e.g., Johnson & Johnson). Mixed vaccines will also be accepted (e.g., one dose of Moderna and one dose of Pfizer). Participants should complete their final vaccine two weeks prior to the start date of AVS NM 2022, which is June 6, 2022.

2. Which vaccines will be accepted?

We will accept WHO-approved vaccines that are also recognized by the US Government as sufficient to meet the vaccine entry requirements of the USA.

The current list of acceptable vaccines is as follows:

- Covishield COVID-19 vaccine
- Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine
- Covaxin COVID-19 vaccine
- Moderna (mRNA-1273) COVID-19 vaccine
- Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine
- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
- Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine
- Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine

This list may be updated as we approach AVS NM 2022 and the best source of information will be the [CDC website](#).

3. Which COVID-19 tests are accepted by AVS NM 2022 and what is the timeline?

If providing COVID-19 test results, you must show a negative result (physical or photo), dated within 24 hours if Antigen test, or 48-72 hours if PCR test before the date of admission (no home tests). You must also show your ID (physical).

4. How do I verify my COVID-19 vaccination or present test results?

COVID-19 vaccine certification will be accomplished via on-site verification of a vaccination certificate/record or a recent negative COVID-19 test (within one day if antigen test or two days if PCR test before the date of admission to the course(s)), cross-checked against a photo identification at the entrance of the AVS NM 22 Registration area before receiving your badge. Upon verification each attendee will be issued a verification ticket they will use to receive their badge at the Registration counter. No participant will be given a conference badge without successful verification of their COVID-19 vaccination or negative test results.

5. Will I also need to provide proof of a COVID-19 booster shot?

No, not at this time.

6. Can I attend the AVS NM 2022 courses with proof of a negative COVID-19 test or with proof of COVID-19 antibodies?

As the regulations currently stand, YES, a negative COVID-19 test, or proof of antibodies (see above for the differences between antigen and PCR testing) will be accepted as a substitution for being fully vaccinated against COVID-19. However, as mentioned previously, we will be aligned with federal, state, county, and city government regulations which are subject to change and the only way to ensure complete access is through complete COVID-19 vaccination.

7. Will exceptions to your COVID-19 policy of complying with local government and venue regulations be accepted?

No, we are unable to make any exceptions. We respect everyone's personal and/or religious perspective but if you are unable to comply with the AVS NM 2022 regulations, we graciously ask you to consider a future event and attend at that date.

8. Will I have to wear a mask during AVS NM 2022?

Mask wearing will be in accordance with local, state and CDC guidelines. An acceptable mask is made of at least two layers of breathable fabric or hospital grade material; fully covers the nose, nostrils, and mouth; fits firmly under the chin; and fits snugly, but comfortably against the side of the face.

9. What should a participant do if exhibiting symptoms during the four days of courses?

If you have any symptoms prior to the course, please do not come to the course. Be sure to notify AVS NM 2022 staff immediately (amybauer.nmavs@gmail.com) and proceed to a nearby facility for testing. If you are already at the course and you start to experience symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19, please notify the AVS NM 2022 staff immediately and proceed to a nearby facility for testing.

If you test positive for COVID-19 we encourage you to disclose the information to the AVS NM 2022 staff, so that we may contact those that you may have been near during the course and so that we can support you to the best of our ability.

10. Before you arrive (all participants):

- Prepare your COVID-19 certification: You must be able to present proof that you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. We will accept WHO/CDC-approved vaccines that are also recognized by the US Government as sufficient to meet the vaccine entry requirements of the USA. Your final vaccine must be administered at least two weeks prior to the first day of AVS NM 2022, which is June 6, 2022. You must also show your ID (physical).
- If providing COVID-19 test results, you must show a negative result (physical or photo), dated within 24 hours if Antigen test, or 48-72 hours if PCR test before the date of admission (no home tests). You must also show your ID (physical).
- Are you symptom free?
 - If you have any symptoms, please stay at home. You can check your symptoms using the [CDC's COVID-19 Self-Checker](#).

- Pack your masks: Mask wearing will be in accordance with local, state and CDC guidelines.
- Check your flight and travel arrangements: Ensure you've checked the requirements of your airline and the destinations from which you will be travelling.
- Print your registration confirmation: If you're already registered, we'll email you registration confirmation. Please print this ahead of time and take it with you when you check in at the Registration Area.
- Please allow extra time for arrival on your first day (we advise 15-20 minutes).
- Be prepared to show your COVID-19 certification or negative test result: You must be able to present proof that you are fully vaccinated or have a negative COVID-19 test result when you arrive in the AVS NM 2022 Course Registration Area.
- Please comply with all CDC COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.