

COVID FAQs

1. How is IAVM handling COVID-19 protocols outlined by the CDC at VenueConnect 2021?

We will be following all CDC guidelines and city of Atlanta policies to ensure the health and safety of our event attendees. Some of the health and safety precautions we will take include:

- a. Setting all meeting rooms with social distancing in mind. We will have no more than five (5) individuals per 66" round table, with each round table set 11-13 feet.
- b. Requesting event attendees and host facility staff wear masks during all VC related events. Masks may be removed during F&B functions when event attendees are seated and eating/drinking.
- c. Encouraging individuals to practice social distancing at networking functions, protecting themselves and others around them.
- d. Placing ample sanitization stations around our hosts facilities.

2. How will Food & Beverage functions be executed at VenueConnect 2021?

We are working closely with GWCC's in-house caterer, Levy Restaurants, on how to safely and efficiently serve our attendees during planned meal functions. This will be including buffet style stations with banquet staff serving all attendees (while wearing masks and gloves), some pre-packaged items for easy grab & go options, and limited break service. See message from Levy below:

Levy Restaurants strives to serve our guests in the safest way possible, during these uncertain times you will notice a few changes to our serving methods and set ups:

- *All Levy team members are required to wear face coverings*
- *Floor markers are placed to encourage safe distancing in que lines*
- *Increased signage is visible to help remind all guests to maintain safe distancing*
- *Clear plexi-shields are placed on all buffets to create a barrier between Levy team members and guests*
- *All buffet or bulk items are served by a Levy team member to minimize multiple touch points*

3. What is the Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) doing to meet the CDC guidelines related to COVID-19?

GWCC was the first facility in the U.S. to achieve GBAC STAR accreditation. The designation recognizes the convention center's commitment to cleaning, disinfection and infectious disease prevention. [GBAC](#) is the leading trade association for the cleaning industry. You can view the Atlanta & Visitors Bureau [Resource Page](#) for all current updates. You can also view the [Health & Safety Procedures](#) provided by the city of Atlanta.

4. What is the Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center doing to meet the CDC guidelines related to COVID-19?

The Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center has enhanced their cleaning guidelines and implemented a new initiative, "Omni Safe & Clean." The Omni Safe & Clean initiative follows the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and each individual Omni location will adhere to local and/or federal mandates. For more information, and an informational video detailing how this initiative is being executed, visit the [Omni Safe & Clean website](#).

5. Will IAVM require masks at VenueConnect 2021?

Masks will be requested at all VC related functions held at the Omni hotel, GWCC, and any offsite locations not held outdoors. We will also encourage attendees to practice social distancing. Disposable masks will be available at registration for those who do not bring their own.

6. Will IAVM require attendees be vaccinated before arrival to VenueConnect 2021?

No, receiving a COVID-19 vaccine will not be required to attend VenueConnect in Atlanta.

7. Does IAVM plan to health screen attendees at VenueConnect 2021?

Yes. We will require attendees to complete an online medical questionnaire each morning prior to their arrival to GWCC. Each morning all attendees will need to complete a daily health self-assessment by visiting iavmcheckin.com; we suggest completing the survey just before leaving your room to walk over to GWCC. We will have personnel on-site to take temperatures daily. After an attendee completes the questionnaire and reports an approved temperature, they will receive a colored wristband (to be changed each day) that will allow them to participate in daily activities (trade show, education sessions, meal functions, etc.).

8. Do I need a COVID-19 test prior to attending VenueConnect 2021?

For DOMESTIC travelers: No, the state of Georgia does not require a negative COVID-19 test for DOMESTIC travelers prior to travelling to the state. There is no quarantine period after your arrival either. Please check to see if your home state has any travel restrictions upon our return from Atlanta.

For INTERNATIONAL travelers: All air passengers entering the United States from abroad are required to [test negative for COVID-19](#). You can [request a letter from the Georgia Department of Public Health](#) for proof of recent recovery.

For more information on Georgia's COVID-19 Travel Restrictions, [click here](#).

For more information on Domestic Travel During COVID-19 by the CDC, [click here](#).

9. What if COVID-19 restrictions change and I'm unable to attend VenueConnect 2021?

If you registered and paid to attend VenueConnect in Atlanta and are unable to travel due to a change in COVID-19 restrictions, IAVM will process a full registration refund to the original form of payment (credit card or check) upon staff's return to the office after the completion of the event.

All other cancellations will adhere to the cancellation policy noted on the VenueConnect 2021 website.

10. Is IAVM offering a virtual/hybrid component to the in-person VenueConnect in Atlanta?

IAVM is planning on hosting a virtual VenueConnect experience in October 2021. This virtual event will include:

- a. Recordings of the General Sessions from the in-person event in Atlanta
- b. NEW General Session topics related to Diversity & Inclusion
- c. Some education sessions from the in-person event, reimagined for a virtual audience
- d. More sector-focused education based on "hot topics" closer to the October timeframe
- e. A virtual trade show to showcase our participating Allied members