

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

COVID-19
MEETING PLANNER
RESPONSE PLAN





MEET LEXINGTON

Lexington, Kentucky is a special city, and we fiercely love it.

As we face this global pandemic, our Mayor, Linda Gorton, organized a COVID-19 Economic Response Committee comprised of 132 community members representing the city's major economic sectors. Together they created a 50-plus page Lexington blueprint with a total of 330 recommendations for reopening the economy.

As a meeting planner, we know how important safety and cleanliness are for you and your attendees. We've taken our city's 50-plus page Lexington blueprint, and narrowed it down to some key guidelines that we are incorporating to make sure your next meeting is memorable. For the full Economic Response Committee report, visit <https://www.lexingtonky.gov/COVID-19>.

Hotels, Convention Centers and other Meeting Facilities

Lexington's meeting and convention hotels have a wide variety of flexible meeting spaces, and historically focus on cleanliness, as guest expectations have always been high in this area. All facilities should follow the guidelines issued by the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA). Most of the hotel products in Lexington are part of major hotel brands such as Hilton, Hyatt, IHG, and Marriott. All of these major brands have introduced cleaning programs and protocols to address COVID-19 that will incorporate these guidelines and utilize specialty disinfectants.

Best practices that are currently being recommended and utilized in Lexington are:

- Facilities should display increased signage for staff, along with COVID-19 specific training
- All employees and guests should wear personal Protective Equipment (PPE). All Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided at most facilities, but we encourage attendees to travel with their own. Visible hand disinfectants with at least 60% alcohol stations should be made available in entrances, restrooms, lobbies, elevators, meeting spaces, front desks, etc.
- Public and communal spaces should be cleaned frequently with hospital grade disinfectant once per hour
- Meeting planners should work with the facilities to revise set-ups to accommodate for social distancing

SPECIAL NOTE: As of April 2021, the COVID positivity rate in Kentucky is 3.20% with 21% of the population full vaccinated.

TOURISM INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Attractions, bars/restaurants, breweries/distilleries, public and private transportation companies and retailers have individual plans in accordance with the Governor of Kentucky's Healthy at Work minimum requirements for reopening and CDC guidelines.

Best practices that are currently being recommended and utilized in Lexington are:

- Signage at the place of business that includes the responsibilities of the guest, emphasizes the importance of maintaining social distance, encourages the safe use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and reminds employees and guests about frequent handwashing and sanitization
- Limited capacity to promote social distancing
- Installation of barriers for point of sale areas to protect employees and customers
- High-touch surfaces are cleaned frequently throughout the day
- Guests and visitors should wear masks as recommended by the Governor of Kentucky

Restaurants are open for patio and inside dining at 65% capacity and 6 feet apart. We ask that you wear your mask into the restaurant and remove it once seated. Groups coming to Lexington do not need to get approval as long as you and the facility follow the current capacity limits and remain 6 feet apart. In addition to meeting minimum requirements, all businesses must meet industry-specific requirements in order to reopen and remain open, and those detailed specifications can be found at <https://govstatus.egov.com/ky-healthy-at-work>.

COVID-19 Meeting Attendee Checklist

To help you and your meeting attendees safely travel during this pandemic, we've put together this list of tips:

- Pack enough alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) and keep it within easy to reach to clean your hands often
- Bring a cloth face covering to wear in public places
- Avoid close contact with others, maintaining six feet of physical distance from others.
- * Cover coughs and sneezes, and avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth

We think our city is special. Meeting Planners who have worked with our team at VisitLEX give Lexington a 92% approval rating as a meeting destination. We know and understand that these are unprecedented times for our industry, so be assured that we will do whatever it takes to make you and your attendees' experiences here safe and memorable.



Lexington Convention & Visitors Bureau

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