

THE MTCARE COMMITMENT



GRAND NATIONALS

GUIDELINES, RECOMENDATIONS, MANDATES AND PROTOCOLS



As an extension of the MTCare Commitment, this document serves to outline onsite event health and safety protocols during the upcoming 2021 BOA Grand Nationals in Indianapolis. In addition, we've highlighted a few health and safety protocols for you and your school to consider as you prepare for this premier national marching band event.

Indiana and Indianapolis City and State Guidelines

We recommend groups review [Indiana](#) and [Indianapolis](#) state and city guidelines as well as the [CDC's Guidelines for Domestic Travel](#) for the latest updates and advisories prior to travel.

Updated as of July 1, 2021, at 11 a.m.

The city of Indianapolis is located in Marion County. The current Marion County Public Health Order states that:

- Face masks are no longer required in Marion County for both vaccinated and unvaccinated peoples.
- Restaurants and bars may operate at 100% capacity.
- Shopping malls and retail stores may open with 100% capacity.
- Sports venues, entertainment venues and cultural institutions such as museums may operate at 100% capacity.
- Social gatherings must not exceed 500 individuals.

Recommendations

Student groups across the country have been actively and successfully traveling since January 2021. Throughout this time, schools and groups have taken several different approaches to health and safety while preparing for and actually traveling.

Prior to Travel

Here are some tips and suggestions for your consideration:

- Review your school's current health and safety practices prior to travel.
- Review all health and safety guidelines and policies with all chaperones.
- Consider traveling with a nurse.
- Consider medical waivers as part of your trip, ensure they encompass situations that may arise due to COVID-19 including permission to test for COVID should a traveler exhibit symptoms.
- Consider monitoring traveler temperatures and symptoms prior to travel and/or request unvaccinated travelers fill out a Health Screening Self-Assessment prior to the trip.
- Consider recommending travelers limit their activity outside of school in the 14 days prior to departure to limit their exposure to others.
- Consider pre and post travel testing of all travelers.
- Consider designating one or two traveling chaperones who will be available to remain with students who may become sick or need to be quarantined until further arrangements are made.

During Travel

Throughout your trip, consider following the protective steps outlined by the CDC:

- Wash hands often, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Cough into your elbow and sneeze into a tissue
- Consult with a doctor before traveling when sick
- Stay up to date on vaccinations
- Avoid contact with people who are already sick
- Be aware of the latest travel advisories from the [CDC](#) and the U.S. Department of State
- Get a flu vaccine
- Take everyday precautions to stop the spread of germs
- Take flu antivirals if prescribed

Mandates

For Groups that are Flying

- Starting February 2, 2021, all airline travelers must wear a face mask throughout the travel experience when indoors. You will be asked to adjust your mask for ID verification or if it alarms the security screening equipment. This [link](#) will offer additional information on wearing masks during travel.
- Any passenger who violates federal regulations, such as refusal to wear a mask in U.S. transportation systems covered by the January 31, 2021 Security Directive and subsequent amendments, may be subject to penalties or fines. The traveler will also be denied TSA PreCheck expedited screening benefits for a period of time.
- Travelers are also encouraged to:
 - Maintain a social distance of six feet wherever possible while at the checkpoint.
 - Remove belts and all personal items from your pockets such as wallets, keys or phones before you enter the checkpoint queue and place them in your carry-on bag. (Does not apply to TSA PreCheck® members).
 - Practice good hygiene, such as washing your hands regularly, including directly before and after completing the security screening process. If it is not possible to wash your hands, please use hand sanitizer.
 - Arrive at the airport early to allow adequate time for checking bags, completing security screenings and getting to the departure gate. COVID-19 has affected staffing and operations across the airport environment, potentially adding time to your pre-flight experience.
- TSA
 - TSA has implemented procedures to increase social distancing and reduce direct contact between employees and the traveling public whenever possible – without compromising security. Adjustments include increasing distance between passengers as they enter the security checkpoint queue and throughout the screening process, placing visual reminders of appropriate spacing on checkpoint floors, and opening more checkpoint lanes where possible to reduce time spent in line.
 - TSA officers are required to wear face mask and gloves. They may also choose to wear eye protection or clear plastic face shields. In addition, TSA officers change their gloves following each pat-down and upon passenger request.
 - As a temporary exemption from the 3-1-1 rule, TSA is allowing one oversized liquid hand sanitizer container, up to 12 ounces per passenger, in carry-on bags. Since these containers exceed the standard allowance typically permitted through a checkpoint, they will need to be screened separately. This will add some time to your checkpoint screening experience. Please keep in mind that all other liquids, gels and aerosols brought to a checkpoint continue to be limited to 3.4 ounces or 100 milliliters carried in a one quart-size bag.
- **Indianapolis International Airport**
 - Face masks required at the Indianapolis International Airport
 - Complimentary masks available at Guest Services
 - Onsite COVID-19 testing site available in Baggage Claim
 - "Be KIND, stay six feet behind," ground markings and signage to encourage social distancing wherever possible
 - Additional hand sanitizing stations available for customer convenience
 - Sanitizing wipes available at each airline gate
 - PPE vending machine with travel items available for purchase
 - Plexiglass shields installed in high-traffic areas such as, ticket counters, TSA security checkpoints and boarding gates to protect staff and public
 - Increased cleaning frequency in high-congregation areas such as Civic Plaza, Baggage Claim and gate seating areas
 - Public restrooms deep cleaned hourly using a hospital-grade disinfectant
 - Touchless payment procedures, wherever possible
 - Increased cleaning and sanitization of IND shuttle buses including luggage storage areas and handrails

Protocols

- Should a traveler become ill on tour, contact your MTC Tour Director to assist with arrangements.
- MTC will have a health and safety advisor on site to aid sick travelers or those presenting symptoms who may need COVID testing.
- MTC will have a limited number of Rapid Tests available for use by those travelers' presenting symptoms.