

OAAPN Annual  
Conference COVID-19  
Safety Protocols  
*updated 9/20/21*

As we all continue the journey through the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be considering whether to attend OAAPN's 2021 Annual Statewide Meeting (Statewide) being held October 21 – October 23, 2021 in Columbus, Ohio. Because your safety is our highest priority, we are following recommendations and guidelines provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the State of Ohio, and the city of Columbus. We will continue to monitor the situation and make adjustments as needed, but we did want to share some important information and current safety precautions:

- Per the [Columbus mayor's executive order](#), signed September 10, 2021, all attendees will be required to wear masks, regardless of vaccination status.
- While being vaccinated against COVID-19 is not mandated, OAAPN strongly recommends that attendees be fully vaccinated prior to attending.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the conference space.
- There will be frequent cleaning of high traffic areas throughout the conference area.
- Communal meals will look different, with seating more spread out and fewer seats at tables.
- Food service will look different. Buffets will be served, and with very limited contact with service staff.
- Registrants are asked to please refrain from attending the conference if they are experiencing flu-like symptoms.
- We are working closely with the conference venue to remain up-to-date on safety precautions being implemented for their guests in the conference space, common areas, and guest rooms.

We are excited to gather once again in-person, and we will do all we can to make your Statewide experience fun, fulfilling, and safe. We want you to enjoy Statewide and all it has to offer!

We, like many of you, hope to see the current COVID-19 resurgence end as additional individuals become vaccinated, but OAAPN will continue to monitor recommendations and regulations, making adjustments as necessary, and sharing information and plans with our attendees.

Please stay tuned to future updates of this COVID-19 Safety Protocol, as we get closer to Statewide.

If you have specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@oaapn.org](mailto:info@oaapn.org).