



AGU Conference Center COVID-19 Protocols and Procedures

American Geophysical Union (AGU) is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all Conference Center attendees and staff. Since keeping people safe and healthy during your visit is a shared responsibility by everyone from visitors to vendors to staff, AGU will comply with all applicable requirements from federal and local health authorities.

AGU requires that only fully vaccinated people attend in-person events at the AGU Conference Center, as recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control's [vaccination guidelines](#). If you are not fully vaccinated, we suggest that you work with your event host to determine if there is an option for virtual participation.

For those who visit the Conference Center in person, AGU will ensure numerous preventative measures are in place to conform with the guidance provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and any requirements issued by the Government of the District of Columbia. If the local requirements change or the science and guidance from the medical professional community changes, AGU will update our protocols and procedures, as appropriate; we will adhere to the standards at the time of your meeting. AGU may update these Protocols and Procedures at any time in its sole discretion.

For the comfort and safety of all building occupants, AGU is enforcing the following standards for visitors and guests:

- **Upon arrival, visitors and guests are to present proof of full vaccination, along with corresponding identification. Unvaccinated patrons, such as children under the age of 12 and those with a medical condition or a closely-held religious belief that prevents vaccination, may provide a negative COVID test within 24 hours of the event date, approved by a governmental health authority.**
- **Upon arrival, visitors and guests will be expected to sign an individual Assumption of Risk & Waiver of Claims document.**
- Effective April 1, 2022, wearing masks is optional, but preferred in the public meeting spaces & common areas, except when eating & drinking or presenting. Ideal masks cover nose & mouth.
- Conduct daily self-temperature check upon entry to the building
- Remain/return home if experiencing COVID-like symptoms or symptoms of any transmissible infectious disease, such as cough, fever, runny nose
- Regularly and thoroughly wash or sanitize hands throughout the day
- Observe social distancing guidelines in public shared spaces **
- Use designated areas, only, for eating or drinking

***DC has waived occupancy limits for meeting spaces but the CDC still recommends some physical distancing for individuals from different households. Meetings will be set for standard capacities but distancing should be respected in public spaces*

To assist in complying with these requests and to further enhance the safety and comfort of visitors at the AGU building, you will find:

- A radiant cooling system which relies on water to transfer heat and provide cooling to the occupied spaces. Other “traditional” HVAC systems such as variable air volume (VAV) systems rely on air to transfer heat and provide cooling to the occupied space. The AGU building provides ventilation air to the occupied spaces via a dedicated outside air system (DOAS) which provides ventilation air only which is 100% outside air. Traditional VAV systems provide a combination of ventilation air and recirculated air for space cooling.
- Appropriate signage to reinforce spatial distancing and other safety reminders
- Increased availability of hand sanitizer stations throughout the building
- Regular cleaning and sanitation of high touch areas (e.g., conference room, elevators, bathrooms, etc.)
- Disinfecting of audio-visual equipment after each session
- A small supply of disposable face masks available at the registration desk, if needed, upon request (Note, everyone coming to the Conference Center is expected to have their own personal face mask)

Thank you for your consideration and support of AGU protocols and procedures.
We hope you enjoy your visit.



AGU is recognized as a WELL Health-Safety Rated facility, by the WELL Building Institute, which is an evidence-based, third-party rating focused on operational policies, maintenance protocols, emergency plans and stakeholder education, to address a post COVID-19 environment and broader health & safety related issues into the future.