



PSO COVID-19 Protocol for Guest Performers

The PSO maintains COVID-19 safety protocols, which are updated regularly per guidance from public health officials regarding COVID-19. This Protocol for **Guest Performers** (“Guest(s)” applies to all guest artists, soloists, audition candidates, conductors, and anyone accompanying the performer to the worksite, e.g., personal assistants, agents, partners, spouses).

1. Backstage access for non-performing visitors

Backstage access for authorized, non-performing visitors is permitted only when Allegheny County Community Levels are at CDC Low or Medium. When levels are High, backstage access is limited to essential personnel only; no backstage visitors are permitted, unless necessary to support a performer. Allegheny County Community Levels are available [here](#). The updates that are released each Thursday apply from the following Monday to the following Sunday. Please ask your PSO host if you need clarification on the PSO’s protocols.

2. COVID-19 Symptoms and Close Contact Protocols:

If you are experiencing any symptoms (mild or otherwise), you must take a rapid antigen test before coming onto the PSO worksite. Your host or contracting manager can provide you with a supply of tests. If there is an active (see Note 2 below) COVID-19 case in your household (anyone living in or visiting in your place of residence during your tenure with the PSO), then for each day while the COVID case in your household is active, you must take a rapid antigen test with a negative result before coming into work and wear a properly fitting **KF-94** or **K/N-95** mask (cloth and surgical masks not permitted) while not performing.

3. Vaccinations

The PSO requires all staff, musicians, and Guests to be a “Vaccinated Individual” unless the PSO approves a reasonable accommodation (see Note 1). A Vaccinated Individual is defined as an individual who has (1) been fully vaccinated per CDC definition; (2) has received CDC recommended boosters **within three months after** the CDC’s earliest recommended date (*currently five months for Moderna or Pfizer and two months for J&J*); and (3) has submitted proof of such vaccination to the guest’s PSO contracting manager or host, or, for musician audition candidates, per instructions provided by Orchestra Personnel. **Please submit your proof of vaccination no later than 90 days prior** to first scheduled service (e.g., rehearsal) with the PSO.

4. Masks

- If Allegheny County’s Community Levels are Low or Medium, masks are optional unless required by an individual’s approved reasonable accommodation.
- If Allegheny County’s Community Levels are High, masks are required indoors. Individuals who are unable to perform with a mask on (i.e., winds, brass, acrobats, dancers, or PSI-approved health conditions that prevent mask wearing) may remove their mask while on stage performing.

Effective: July 21, 2021; updated 9-1-2022

- Singers, soloists, and conductors with negative PCR test within 72-hours of performance or negative daily antigen test may remove masks only while performing and during concert-stage entrance/exit; masks optional if being photographed or interviewed (i.e., interviews).

Note 1: Guests may seek an exemption—called an “accommodation”—from this Policy due to a disability or because of a sincerely held religious belief. If a Guest requires an accommodation, the Guest should immediately contact their contracting manager or host to request and then complete a Request for Accommodation form. The PSO may request documentation to support the requested accommodation. After receiving a request for an accommodation, the PSO will enter into a discussion with the Guest to see if there are reasonable accommodations that might allow the Guest to perform with the PSO.

Note 2: “Active” is defined as: from the day of the onset of symptoms (or day of positive test result if asymptomatic) (day-0) until the fifth day (day-5) if symptoms are improving or the day that symptoms begin to improve after day-5.