

2022 Sewanee Young Writers' Conference | COVID-19 POLICIES

AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

1. Though we cannot require the Covid-19 vaccine, we strongly encourage each participant to be fully vaccinated and boosted by June 12, two weeks before the start of the conference.
2. Participants who test positive for Covid-19 must follow CDC guidelines. They will be temporarily isolated in a space on campus, **but they MUST be picked up within 24-48 hours**. Because no one is allowed to fly with Covid-19, you may have to drive home or wait out the quarantine time in a hotel. We do not have the resources to care for a participant for a long period of time nor is it easy to weave someone back into workshop after a 5-day isolation period.
3. All participants must identify below the person(s) (name, phone numbers, address) who will pick them up should they test positive for Covid-19.
4. Any participant who is exposed to someone who tests positive for Covid-19 must follow [CDC guidelines](#) that are in place. At present, that means **all unvaccinated** persons must isolate for 5 days. Again, because we do not have the resources to care for quarantined individuals for that long, unvaccinated participants who are exposed must be picked up within 24-48 hours.
5. We have decided it best for students to stay in double rooms or suites. The benefits of forming a tight-knit community of writers, in our opinion, outweigh the risks.
6. Faculty members and staff have the right to require participants to wear masks. It may be the case that some faculty members may require masking and others may not. We expect participants to respect their instructor's decision and not complain about the situation. Such complaining damages the community students come here to create.
7. Participants will be required to mask in any crowded indoor meeting.
8. Any participant who has Covid-19 symptoms must inform a staff member. At that point, we will get the participant tested, probably at Sewanee's own Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, which can often return results within 24 hours. The SMDL, however, cannot test a participant without a physician's referral. Fortunately, we have a number of local medical practices here, including Sewanee Pediatrics, that can give such a referral and provide care should the student be symptomatic. The participant must then inform the SYWC staff of the test result.
9. All students must bring 3 rapid antigen tests and enough disposable masks (preferably KN95s) for the duration of the conference. We aim to stay on top of the pandemic to avoid spread of the virus and to keep the conference running smoothly.
10. On the Tuesday after the conference begins, every participant will be required to take a rapid antigen test. Again, our goal is to prevent an outbreak and make everyone involved in the conference feel safe.
11. We cannot know now how the pandemic may evolve in the coming months. The University and the SYWC may, at any point, institute new Covid-19 policies. Compliance with such policies is mandatory. We appreciate your patience as we monitor the situation and continue to work on a plan that meets that reduces the risk of a Covid-19 outbreak and meets the needs of the program and participants.
12. As with other matters, we will treat each other with respect and kindness, knowing that we all may have different views about Covid-19 and the protocols in place.

13. In the unlikely event that a COVID-19 outbreak occurs during the conference, which requires isolation of individuals beyond the University's capacity to provide isolation space, the University reserves the right to cancel programs without refund.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

We have received the Covid-19 Policies of the University of the South and the Sewanee Young Writers' Conference. By signing below, you are acknowledging that you have read the rules, discussed them, and understand that a participant who doesn't comply with these rules will be dismissed from the program.

Print Name

Signature of Student

Date

Print Name

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Should your child test positive for Covid-19 during the conference, and you believe you will be unable to pick him or her up in 24 hours, please identify below the person(s) who have agreed to do so on your behalf.

Name _____

Cell # _____

Work # _____

Address _____

I hereby give the person named above permission to pick _____ up from the Sewanee Young Writers' Conference if they test positive for Covid-19 during the program, June 26 – July 9, 2022.

Print Name

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Please download, sign, and upload the Acknowledgement Form with other registration materials by May 1.