

Feb 4, 2022

## ES COVID POLICY

The Executive Committee of The Econometric Society adopted the following COVID policy for all in-person activities:

- 1) The health and safety of the participants in all Society activities is paramount, so the local organizers must confirm that they comply with all the suitable regulations imposed by the country, state/region/province, city, and institution in which the activity takes place;
- 2) the local organizers will explicitly agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Society for any health and safety incident that might arise during the meetings, including COVID-19 related ones
- 3) all Society Calls for Papers and the meeting sites will include a paragraph that explicitly states the points 1) and 2) above. For example, “The local organizers comply with all the health and safety regulations imposed by the A (country), B (state/region/province), C (city) and D (institution) in which the activity takes place, and the Econometric Society shall be held harmless and indemnified for any health and safety incident that might arise during the meetings, including COVID-19 related ones”;
- 4) Regional Standing Committees (RSC) in agreement with the local organizers may impose stricter requirements than the legally binding ones provided such requirements do not go against current law in the country, state/region/province, city, or institution in which the activity takes place;
- 5) the Society will provide examples of Best Practices used at international meetings but will not endorse any specific ones.

Examples of COVID policies implemented for in-person meetings:

### 1. DSE International School, Bonn, Germany

Organizers closely cooperated with the University of Bonn regarding on-site meetings, and postponed the registration procedure until they got the go ahead from the University administrators. Organizers posted on the conference website the travel requirements that applied in Germany at the time <https://dseconf.org/dse2021practical#> and they requested mandatory rapid antigen tests that were performed on arrival and every other day during the summer school in combination with social distancing and mask wearing requirements. No proof

of vaccination was explicitly required for German participants, who could travel freely within the country, although without it they couldn't enter any restaurant.

## 2. IMEX2021, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

The following protocol was applied by a Britain-based organization hosting a large (3,000+) international meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA (IMEX2021). In order to attend the meeting, all attendees were required to be vaccinated and to upload proof of vaccination prior to attending the event. Proof of vaccination was verified by an organization called Clear/Healthpass (there are also two other similar software programs, SMART Health and ReturnSafe). After having vaccination information verified, participants received a QR code and had to show the code to be scanned in to attend the meeting. For those who didn't run their approval beforehand, they had to do it onsite and wait for approval before being admitted. Still, some people showed up unvaccinated and were then referred to onsite testing. They had to have two negative rapid tests over two days before being admitted. Once vaccination was approved and the QR scanned, attendees received a green bracelet that couldn't be taken off and had to be shown each day upon entering the exhibition floor and/or any meeting. Finally, they passed out free masks constantly and had hand sanitizer available".