UTM Safety Plan: Meeting and Rental Spaces, Conference Centres and Performance Spaces

1.0 Scope
Describe the department to which this procedure applies.

This Safety Plan applies to all Meeting and Rental Spaces, Conference Centres and Performance Spaces on University of Toronto campuses (St. George, Scarborough, and Mississauga).

2.0 Screening
Describe how screening will be conducted.

1) No drop-ins are allowed; only registered participants (including those with tickets where applicable) are permitted entry.
2) During the process of registering or purchasing a ticket for an event, participants will be reminded to self-screen and be provided with a link to the UofT Self-Screening Poster. Participants will be reminded that if they answer ‘yes’ to any of the screening questions, they are not to come on-site.
3) All UofT staff and students are to complete screening prior to coming on campus.
4) The UofT Self-Screening Poster will be posted at all entrances and reminds all entrants to self-screen prior to entry.
5) Upon arrival at the reception/check-in desk, staff will verify that the participant has completed their self-screening prior to being allowed to entry.
6) During the process of registering or purchasing a ticket for an event, contact information of all participants will be collected. This information is retained for a period of at least one month from the date of the event.
7) Participants who appear ill with COVID symptoms may be offered alternative booking arrangements/accommodations, to be assessed on a case by case basis.
3.0 Physical Environment/Physical Distancing
Describe measures that will be put in place to provide for physical distancing.

1) An impermeable barrier will be installed at the reception/check-in counter or a physical distance of 2 metres (e.g. strategically placed tables and stanchions) will be maintained between staff and participants.
2) Staff shift start time, end time and break/lunch times will be staggered as appropriate.
3) Floor decals or tape will be used to delineate areas and maintain physical distancing (2 metres) for staff and participant areas (e.g. areas where queuing may occur).
4) Excess furniture will be removed.
5) Fixed furniture that cannot be removed with have a do not use or have a Restricted Seating sign.
6) Maximum occupancy signs, based on physical distancing, will be posted in common areas (e.g. meeting rooms, elevators, washrooms, staff kitchenettes, storage rooms).
7) Seating plan will follow physical distancing and allowable limits per table under provincial regulation and public health directives. Signage will be applied as appropriate (e.g. Restricted Seating sign).
8) Event booking and check-in processes will limit the number of participants at the facilities at one time to allowable limits under provincial regulation and public health directives.
9) Physical distancing signage reminders will be posted throughout the facility including stairwells.
10) Where music will be played, it will not exceed the level at which normal conversation is possible, to discourage shouting or yelling.
11) Only one room can be booked for any one particular event.
12) Booking and operating procedures will comply with any provincial and local public health directives regarding opening/closing times and on the sale and service of alcohol where applicable.
13) Until further notice, no buffet style food service is permitted. Where food service is permitted and provided, it will individually served. Utensils, condiments and similar will be individual served/provided and/or individually wrapped to discourage touching of common surfaces (e.g. multiple people reaching into the same container for forks).
14) Where possible, tasks have been modified to be done virtually, by phone or by email to reducing the number of staff on site at one time.

4.0 Hand Hygiene, Cleaning & Disinfection
Describe hygiene facilities and cleaning/disinfection that will be carried out.

1) Handwashing facilities are available in washrooms. Washrooms will be checked for soap and paper towels on a regular basis during the day.
2) Hand sanitizer stations are available throughout the facility and will be checked regularly during the day.
3) High touch surfaces will be disinfected per the Tri-Campus Caretaking Strategy for Return to the University
4) Shared equipment and countertops will be disinfected by staff before use. Disinfectant will be provided to staff for use.
5) Staff will conduct additional disinfection on equipment where needed.
6) Where possible, individuals will be encouraged to bring their own equipment (e.g. pens, paper, laptop) to reducing handling of shared equipment and materials.
5.0 Mask and Face Covering
Describe mask and face covering requirements that will be in place.

1) Except when eating or drinking, all staff and participants will be wearing a non-medical mask or face covering when they are indoors per provincial regulation and the UofT Policy on Non-Medical Masks and Face Covering.
2) Extra non-medical masks will be kept on-site in the event an individual forgets, damages or loses their own non-medical mask or face-covering.
3) Information on non-medical masks will be posted: NON-MEDICAL Cloth Mask Poster

6.0 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
Describe any additional PPE that will be needed (if applicable).

1) In most circumstances, physical distancing will be followed and non-medical masks and face coverings will be worn. Note: non-medical masks and face covering are not considered PPE.
2) If a staff member is not able to maintain physical distancing consistently, a medical grade mask will be used by the staff member. Information on medical masks will be posted: MEDICAL Mask Poster.
3) Where first aid is required, staff providing first aid will follow the Guidance for workplace identified First Aiders during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic and maintain physical distancing if possible. If it is not possible to maintain physical distance due to the circumstances, staff will wear a medical grade mask, eye protection, face shield and gloves when providing first aid. Where there is a significant risk of exposure to blood, a disposable gown is to be worn.

For the latest information about U of T’s COVID-19 response, please see the UTogether2020 page and the University’s Coronavirus page. Please take the time to review our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and the Human Resources & Equity page on COVID-19 (e.g. Return to Work Processes during COVID-19 Response document). If staff or participants have a question that is not covered, please consider using the Contact Us button located at the top of the FAQ section to submit your question.