

Policy on Process for Reopening of PLATO In-person Activities
Adopted by the PLATO Board of Directors
June 12, 2020

Since planning for courses and events occurs months prior to the activities, all in-person PLATO courses and events are canceled for the remainder of 2020 due to the continuing Coronavirus health crisis. This includes Fall 2020 in-person PLATO courses, although plans for Fall online courses and online special events will continue.

Resumption of in-person programming shall not occur until authorized by the PLATO Board. The Board will consider and use reliable governmental guidance for senior populations before defining criteria for resuming programming.

Courses: Once the Board has authorized resumption of programming and defined criteria, the opening of in-person courses will begin when the Curriculum Committee and the PLATO Executive Committee agree that the Board-approved criteria are met. Coordinators do not decide meeting places without approval of Curriculum Committee. Otherwise the course is not a PLATO course nor is listed as one. The Curriculum Committee approves all courses and their host locations.

Special Events: Once the Board has authorized resumption of programming and defined criteria, the opening of in-person events will begin when the Special Events Committee and the Executive Committee agree that the Board-approved criteria are met. It is possible that different types of events open in phases.

Criteria for the Board to consider:

The following is not a comprehensive list of criteria, but are minimal categories that the Board should consider.

Government guidance: Guidance from governmental health sources are met for the safety of senior populations. These include standards regarding size of groups, social distancing, masks, sanitization, or other matters.

Meeting places: The meeting place complies with governmental guidance and meets requirements for sanitization to protect our senior group. PLATO can ensure that its members can comply with any conditions for the gatherings (for example social distancing; size of gatherings, wearing masks during the event or course; or any other conditions).

Bus transportation (for trips only): The bus company complies with governmental guidance for sanitization and limits seating to meet recommended social distancing

standards. In addition, the trip is financially feasible due to the smaller number of bus riders.

In addition to adopting the above policy, the board is being assisted by a work group of members with career experience in public health, epidemiology, medicine, and law in developing measurable criteria for reopening in-person programs affecting a senior population. The work group has the charge to assist the Board and officers in understanding which sources of information are the most reliable, how to interpret guidance as it impacts a senior population, what standards need to be met once an activity is open, and any other information that will be useful in protecting our members. The group will prepare draft criteria for the board's consideration, will be a valuable resource as the board deals with important questions, and will be available for continuing consultation as situations change.