

The 34th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Eastern Nursing Research Society will be held inperson in Providence, Rhode Island with selected plenary sessions available virtually. The ENRS Board is concerned with the health and safety of our members.

While <u>Rhode Island</u> is currently a low-risk area per the <u>CDC</u> guidelines, the ENRS Board has decided to maintain the indoor mask requirement at our conference for several reasons:

- We have attendees who have registered for the conference based on both our vaccination policy and the masking protocol in place at the time of registration.
- We want all to feel welcomed and do not want to stigmatize anyone. As nurses, attendees may have small children not yet eligible to be vaccinated or may be caring for others in high-risk groups and/or may themselves be in high-risk groups.
- Our conference will take place after spring breaks and travel from other areas that may have higher risk.

## Before the conference:

All in person participants of the 34th Annual Scientific Sessions must be fully vaccinated to attend, including a booster dose if eligible. *Before leaving home, ENRS attendees must upload your COVID vaccination plus booster proof issued by your state or through one of the approved apps listed below*. These are free apps that provide a digital vaccine record.

- <u>CLEAR</u>
- Docket
- <u>DC Health</u>

If you develop COVID-19 symptoms, please stay home, isolate, and follow <u>CDC guidance</u>.

## At the conference:

- Wearing a face mask is required at all times unless actively eating, drinking, or presenting at a lecture or panel.
- We ask that you wear your name badge at all times while in the convention center or other sponsored ENRS events. Only those that are registered as an attendee for the ENRS Meeting, and have provided proof of vaccination at the time of check in, will be permitted in the meeting space.
- There will be face masks and alcohol-based sanitizer available onsite.
- Please note, the meals for the conference are grab-and-go to encourage attendees to space out while eating unmasked. Attendees should use their best judgement and assess their comfort level when deciding to eat together with a group.

- The Rhode Island Convention Center has rigorous cleaning and disinfecting protocols in place.
- Per the Rhode Island Convention protocols, everyone that enters the Convention Center will be encouraged to wear a face mask if they have been vaccinated and required to wear a mask if they have not been vaccinated. However, all ENRS attendees are required to wear masks in the meeting and registration spaces, except when actively eating, drinking, or presenting.
- If you experience COVID-19 symptom, isolate and follow <u>CDC guidance</u>.

## **OTHER FAQs**

## Is ENRS accepting a vaccine exemption or negative PCR test?

ENRS is not accepting any vaccination exceptions or A negative COVID test in lieu of proof of vaccination.

#### Will any physical distancing requirements be implemented?

Although the session rooms at the venue are good sizes for the purpose of educational sessions, we have limitations regarding distancing within the meeting space. ENRS will make every effort to ensure space between attendees as feasible.

#### I want to cancel my conference registration. How do I get a refund?

All cancelation requests must be received in writing to ENRS via email at <u>info@enrs-go.org</u> by March 14, 2022. Cancelations received on or before March 14, will be issued a refund less the \$75 processing fee. Cancelations requested after the 14th will not be issued a refund. Registration transfers to another individual is always honored, provided they can show proof of vaccination.

# If I cancel my participation in light of the new COVID-19 safety protocol, will ENRS reimburse me for my travel including hotel accommodation?

ENRS will not reimburse any travel-related expenses to attendees or speakers. Attendees should contact the airlines and hotels directly for reimbursements.