

Events take the Public Health Pledge

A guide to signing and promoting the pledge

Thank you for your commitment to making events safer and more inclusive! This document is for people who run events and want their event itself to take the pledge.

This sends a strong signal to prospective participants about the level of care you're putting into the event, and helps other event organizers take note.

We are deeply grateful you are here. Please let us know if you have any questions.

The PHPledge team,
Josh, Sarah, and Chris

What it means to sign

Let's briefly unpack what it means for your event or organization to sign the Public Health Pledge.

It is required that you honor all three points of the pledge at all events that your team is responsible for hosting or otherwise executing. We highly recommend holding affiliated events and organizations, including sponsors, to the same standards. It should be communicated to attendees when affiliated events are *not* held to the same standards.

To recap, the pledge:

I am committed to diversity and inclusion, including people with disabilities, chronic illness, and caregivers, therefore I pledge to only participate in or organize events that have robust Health and Safety policies.

Events must meet these criteria:

- 1. The event has a Health and Safety policy, and if the policy changes it is only strengthened – never weakened – between the event's announcement and the event itself.*
- 2. The event actively communicates this policy by including it on their website, in the registration flow, and speaker proposal process, discussing the policy regularly during events, and including it everywhere important announcements are shared.*
- 3. The event's policy includes active measures designed to minimize the number of participants who are infected with transmissible diseases like COVID-19, as well as mitigate transmission between participants.*

How to sign

Once you're ready to sign, please email us at phpledge@googlegroups.com with the following information:

- How you'd like the name to show up
- A logo if possible, which we will place on the PHPledge website
- A web address to link to
- Contact info for follow up as needed (name, email, number) – we will not publish this

We update the website several times a week and will move quickly to get your event listed. Once we have you listed on our website, we'll let you know so you can announce!

We reserve the right to refuse signatories that are spam or otherwise harmful.

How to promote it

Promoting the Public Health Pledge is entirely optional, but we believe it's a powerful way to signal to prospective participants that you are actively taking steps to make your event more safe and inclusive.

- Social media posts
- Link on website, such as on the FAQ, Health and Safety and COVID info pages, and in the registration or speaker proposal flow
- Mention in announcements

Here is some sample copy you are welcome to use:

This event has taken the [Public Health Pledge](#) as part of our commitment to safety and inclusion, and is taking proactive steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other transmissible diseases.

We highly recommend linking to the PHPledge website itself so participants can learn more and, as they see fit, verify your participation for themselves.

We will be creating more collateral that signatories are interested parties are welcome to use in the coming weeks and months. If there is something specific you'd like, please don't hesitate to ask and we will fast track it!

Invite discussion

We know that the Public Health Pledge is the start, not the end. It's going to take us all time to develop a set of well known best practices that cover a wide range of event types.

And we understand that implementing the Public Health Pledge, as with many other event planning decisions, involves tradeoffs.

We want to work together to help you do your best and to evolve the shared body of knowledge.

Please don't hesitate to reach out: phpledge@googlegroups.com.