

**Covid-19 Community Protocols**

All members of the community will take on the responsibility of keeping the community healthy with respect to COVID-19 and will comply with these protocols.

**The How and Why of the Bubble**

We'll wear masks and distance until we've formed a stable bubble, and then we'll enjoy a relatively normal lifestyle on and around campus. We select our campuses to be near major hospital systems and to have access to trails, rock climbing, and lakes on and just off campus.

Our local county health authority partners review our protocols and request changes in order to marry our framework with local best practices.

We establish our bubble soon after students arrive using PCR molecular tests, the highest efficacy and specificity cleared by the FDA. Each week we test our group to make sure we're keeping a clear eye on community transmission.

After we bubble and find a normal rhythm during the first month on campus and on the trails and boulders of the surrounding national forest, we'll reassess the covid-19 risk, opening up medium risk activities (take-out, grocery shopping) and begin testing every week to mitigate that additional risk.

**Prior to arriving on campus**

Students must exercise prudence and caution for nine (9) days prior to the session start date. This means limiting exposure to non-immediate family members, wearing a face mask around non-immediate family members, avoiding large crowds/gatherings, and limiting unnecessary travel.

Three (3) days prior to traveling to APB’s program site, participants must quarantine if they have any symptoms commonly associated with COVID-19, (*e.g*. fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea). We will work with each participant to determine whether they can travel to campus later in the session.

**Participant admission (and re-admission) to campus**

Prior to heading to campus, participants will be asked to exercise a high level of caution, avoiding congested public settings. Participants will be asked to stay home if they are experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19.

Participants will initially arrive on campus on the same day. Non-essential visitors will be limited (particularly those not from the geographic region).

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* Participants will spend the first 10 days wearing masks and following physical distancing guidelines. This is an average amount of time it takes for the viral load to build in a person's body, so testing on arrival would not catch whether someone had been exposed to covid-19 while traveling.
* Participants will be tested on day 4 and 10 by our private testing partners with same-day tests; those with symptoms see #3
* Participants follow physical distancing guidelines until test results return

Positive participants (provided they experience no symptoms ever) will be quarantined until:

* 10 days have passed since test
* OR they test negative on two subsequent tests within 4 days

Participants who have symptoms upon arrival or after a positive test will remain in quarantine until all of the following conditions are met:

* 3 days with no fever
* Respiratory symptoms have improved (e.g. cough, shortness of breath)
* 10 days since symptoms first appeared

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After this entry period, our cohort is now treated as one stable unit. As we form as a group and monitor the covid-19 case load in the surrounding area, we will restrict our movements to campus and the surrounding public lands.

Participants will be asked to self-monitor symptoms throughout the semester; instructors will check in on participant observations weekly.

**Surveillance Testing**

After we determine medium-risk activities (see below) seem reasonable or responsible, and we will facilitate testing with our provider for our whole cohort (including instructors and food staff) once per week.

**Food services**

In early months, eating outside is ideal and will be encouraged weather-permitting. Later or in inclement weather, APB will stagger meal times.

To avoid mass waste, we will use non-disposable food service items. These will be handled by gloved, masked personnel and then washed in a commercial dishwasher.

**Transportation**

APB will bus participants from the airport to the site with enough buses to provide ample physical distancing in addition to requiring face masks.

Participants can drive their own cars to the site.

Once on site, APB will use 15 passenger vans to transport small groups of participants off site for trips if surrounding areas are open for non-essential movement.

If a participant chooses to leave the campus, they must sign in and out with an instructor indicating his/her destination and length of time away.

**Communal spaces**

When available, indoor communal spaces (for shared recreation or coursework) will be structured to allow for sufficient physical distancing of 6ft between participants. Maximum room capacities may be reduced to ensure adequate spacing is possible in the case of an outbreak.

Signs and announcements will be posted in highly visible locations, regarding transmission intervention and protective measures. Free material is available on the CDC’s website. Weekly emails will be sent out to all participants with reminders and COVID-status updates of both the camp and the surrounding area.

Because of minimized risk, compared to enclosed settings, larger gatherings will be permitted in communal outdoor spaces.

All surfaces will be disinfected daily.

**Extracurricular activities**

Outdoor activities will be prioritized, weather and season-permitting. Based on the geographic region, we will continue to refine our table of high-/medium-/low-risk activities which will determine actions participants must take after participating. At this time, higher-risk activities will not be allowed with rare, case-by-case exceptions.

At the start of our program, we will allow and facilitate only low-risk activities (e.g. bouldering or hiking in the national forest) while we monitor the trend in cases in the local community. The table below offers examples of each type of activity.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Higher-risk activities | Medium-risk activities | Lower-risk activities |
| Indoor restaurant  Bars  Concerts  Extended travel | Grocery shopping  Crowded hikes  Big box stores  Farmers market | Hiking  Going to a beach  Mountain biking  Take-out food  Rock climbing |

**Outbreak scenarios**

*Local community outbreak or renewed county or state lockdown orders:*

* We shelter in place at our campus, taking special care to mitigate risk from deliveries and pausing entrance to non-essential visitors.

*A participant experiences symptoms:*

* APB will arrange for testing for the participant on site or for safe transport for testing and/or for further medical attention. Quarantine rooms are designated for participants or staff who begin to show signs/symptoms of COVID-19 or who test positive for the virus.
* Our best practice is for a confirmation test within 24 hours to confirm the case. If confirmed, our community will restrict travel off campus and require physical distancing and face masks on campus, and test every other day until transmission is stabilized, i.e. no further cases emerge over 10 days.

Close contacts of probable or suspected COVID-19 cases will be ascertained. Contacts will be asked to monitor symptoms for two weeks following their last close contact date, avoid communal activities, and wear a mask while indoors. We will test contacts after five days of monitoring their symptoms in addition to our weekly surveillance testing.

Staff will notify local health authorities regarding COVID-19 symptoms or positive test results.

**Closure**

APB intends to follow all federal, state, and local protocols for COVID-19 including but not limited to closure of facilities or suspension of the program when appropriate to do so.

**Trips, Visits, and Returning Home**

If participants wish to travel for an extended period of time, e.g. a fall-break visit to a friend out of state, APB will work with each participant on a case-by-case basis, and, if a trip and its preparations seem appropriate, students may travel. When a participant returns, s/he must undergo the original admission process outlined above. At the end of the semester, participants may be required to quarantine together as one collective family unit in order to go home with the confidence that they are keeping their older relatives safe.

**COVID-19 Issues**

The novel Coronavirus and the threat of COVID-19 have made necessary certain program and operating strategies designed to reduce the risk to Participant and staff. Participant shall educate himself/herself/theirself about the characteristics of the disease and preventative measures to reduce the chances of infection. Important resources include the guidelines of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, at [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](about:blank) and the guidelines of the State of Arizona and of Yavapai County, Arizona applicable to the program location.

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19: Fever or chills; Cough; Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; Fatigue; Muscle or body aches; Headache; New loss of taste or smell; Sore throat; Congestion or runny nose; Nausea or vomiting; and Diarrhea. This list does not include all possible symptoms. Each participant agrees to: wash hands often; avoid close contact with others (physical/social distancing); cover mouth and nose with a mask when around others; cover coughs and sneezes; daily clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces; monitor health daily.

Participant agrees to the following additional COVID-19 protocols: when met by APB staff for transport to the camp location or otherwise arriving at the camp location, be free of infection and circumstances (including recent travel and exposure to others) which might indicate the possibility of infection; immediately report to staff any condition or conduct which might indicate the presence of, or contribute to the spread of, the virus or any other communicable disease. Participant shall self-quarantine for a minimum of fourteen (14) days if Participant becomes exposed to COVID-19 or if Participant develops any symptoms of COVID-19.

APB will send a health checklist to Participant as part of the pre-camp screening process. Participant agrees to promptly fill out and return the checklist. If COVID-19, or any other communicable disease, is detected at the program facility, and contact tracing is sought by a government health authority, Participant agrees that APB may give to that authority whatever information it has to allow the authority to contact Participant. If Participant becomes infected, APB is authorized to advise other participants and staff of that circumstance.

Participant recognizes that COVID-19 is primarily spread from person-to-person and may be spread by people who are asymptomatic, meaning they are not showing symptoms. Participant further recognizes that COVID-19 may be spread by coming into contact with surfaces or objects that have the virus on it. Participant recognizes and voluntarily accepts that the activities, program, and location that Participant is agreeing to participate in may bring participant into contact with persons or objects carrying the COVID-19 virus and that through such contact, Participant may become infected or infect others with COVID-19. Participant acknowledges having been fully informed that engaging in APB’s activities, program, and location could increase the risk of contracting COVID-19 and the potential to pass the virus along to others.

Participant agrees that Participant is personally responsible for Participant’s safety and actions while at the Friendly Pines Camp. Participant agrees to comply with all Yavapai County, Arizona and State of Arizona policies and rules relating to COVID-19. Participant recognizes that Participant may incur a risk of contracting COVID-19 while at the Friendly Pines Camp.

Participant shall immediately inform APB if Participant has any of the following COVID-19 symptoms as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control: Fever or chills; Cough; Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; Fatigue; Muscle or body aches; Headache; New loss of taste or smell; Sore throat; Congestion or runny nose; Nausea or vomiting; or Diarrhea.

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