## FROM THE CDC

## Interim Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Large events and mass gatherings can contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in the United States via travelers who attend these events and introduce the virus to new communities. Examples of large events and mass gatherings include conferences, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings, and other types of assemblies. These events can be planned not only by organizations and communities but also by individuals.

Therefore, CDC, in accordance with its guidance for <u>large events and mass</u> <u>gatherings</u>, recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States.

Events of any size should only be continued if they can be carried out with adherence to guidelines for protecting <u>vulnerable populations</u>, <u>hand hygiene</u>, <u>and social distancing</u>. When feasible, organizers could modify events to be virtual.

This recommendation does not apply to the day to day operation of organizations such as <u>schools</u>, <u>institutes of higher learning</u>, <u>or businesses</u>. This recommendation is made in an attempt to reduce introduction of the virus into new communities and to slow the spread of infection in communities already affected by the virus. This recommendation is not intended to supersede the advice of local public health officials.