

Vaccination Policy Frequently Asked Questions

updated as of Monday, June 28

What do I need to do if I wish to participate in the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir during the 2021-2022 season?

All participants (singers, volunteers, staff) must be fully vaccinated before taking part in any ISC activity (rehearsal, concert, volunteer event). This means that your final vaccine dose was received at least 10 days prior to the date of your first activity.

Which vaccine do I need to receive?

Any of the three vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson/Janssen) available in the USA offer excellent protection, and is recommended. Following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the best Covid-19 vaccine is the first one available to you. The CDC does not recommend one vaccine over the other.

What will rehearsals and concerts look like in the 2021-2022 season?

Our goal is to return to “normal” operational protocols for rehearsals and concerts in the coming year. This means no obligatory mask wearing while singing, no room capacity limits on rehearsal/performance spaces, and no required social distancing between singers. We plan to continue individual temperature checks upon arrival.

I believe I had Covid-19, do I still need to get vaccinated?

Yes. While it may be true that there is some resultant natural immunity after recovery from Covid-19, it is believed to be not as strong, nor as long lasting, as that provided by the available vaccines.

Previously, I attended rehearsal even when I wasn't feeling 100%, because I believed I wasn't contagious, and I sat in the back and observed. Will this still be possible?

No. We can no longer permit anyone not feeling well (or running a fever) to be in the room during rehearsals or other activities. However, we will have ZOOM capabilities for each rehearsal, allowing those not well enough to attend to follow along at home.

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Will our audience members need to be vaccinated too?

Decisions regarding protocols for audience members are made by venue owners/managers, not by the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir. We will share their protocols well in advance of our performances.

Will guest artists/orchestra players also be required to be vaccinated as well?

Insofar as possible, yes. However, as we see that institutional policies have yet to be announced in many cases, and that in other cases the ISC is a "guest artist" itself and may have limited input over a host institution's policies, it is possible some non-ISC collaborators may have policies different from ours. In every case, we will endeavor to learn what protocols are in effect for such entities, and share that information in a timely manner.

I'm excited about the possibility of returning to "normal" rehearsals, but I'm also a little bit nervous, too.

That's completely understandable. We have all been through one of the most extraordinary events of our lifetimes in the last year and a half. It's been so long that we've been apart, it is likely to feel strange to start to get back together again. But, you can remind yourself that we are taking this one step at a time, following the advice of medical professionals, scientists and health experts. And, you may also be aware that numerous choirs have already begun singing together again. We will have plenty of anecdotal evidence over the summer months to confirm our decisions, and help guide us if any adjustments are needed.

If I wish to wear a mask while singing in rehearsal, is that okay?

Yes, to a point. Singers wishing to remain masked during rehearsals may do so for certain initial rehearsals. However, there will be a point in each concert cycle when we need to actually hear ourselves and the ensemble without masks (since that is how we will perform our concerts). At that point, the conductor may say something like "this part of rehearsal needs to be sung without masks," etc. Our concerts will be presented without masks.



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If I am unvaccinated, may I still participate if I sing with my mask on?

No. All participants (singers/volunteers/staff) must be fully vaccinated to participate in rehearsals, concerts and other official ISC events.

Who will see and have access to my completed "Vaccine Affirmation Form?"

Your completed form will be kept in a secure file in the ISC offices, and will be seen only by ISC staff and leadership as appropriate. The form will not be shared outside of the ISC organization.

How long will the ISC require a Covid-19 vaccination as a condition of participation?

We anticipate requiring a Covid-19 vaccination for the duration of the 2021-2022 concert season. We will be ready to adjust or amend our policy as new data comes to light.