In-Person Activity Guidelines

Our top priority is the health and well-being of all Swing Left volunteers, partners, candidates, and the broader communities that surround us. We are committed to keeping each other safe, and the only way for us to do things together in person is to be vaccinated! Fully vaccinated individuals that are attending an in-person event(s) should follow the CDC’s guidance for fully vaccinated individuals, and if necessary, contact the event host(s) for specific questions regarding COVID-19 event protocols. As we continue to partner with candidates across the country, we also know that each campaign will outline respective guidelines around in-person activities—as such, we encourage our volunteers to follow local, state, and federal guidelines when participating in particular tactics.

Swing Left has developed a three-question test that can serve as a tool to help volunteers decide how and when to choose to host and/or participate in particular in-person tactics:

- Does this activity comply with all local, state, and federal guidance?
- Am I comfortable engaging in this activity?
- Are all others who will be part of this activity comfortable engaging in it?

If the answer to all three questions is “Yes,” then the activity can be part of Swing Left’s organizing work. Any activity that fails at least one of the questions will not be supported by Swing Left.

General Safety Guidelines

We’ve compiled the following list of in-person tactics and corresponding guidelines for our volunteers:

Attending In-Person Events for Candidates or Partner Organizations

Before committing to or promoting a third-party event, we strongly recommend that Swing Left volunteers thoroughly review any in-person activity guidance the campaign or partner organization has released. If a campaign organizes events that individual Swing Left volunteers are uncomfortable engaging in, then Swing Left encourages those volunteers to instead join virtual phone banking and other socially-distanced activities. Swing Left cannot account for third-party/Swing Left partners’ vaccination protocols, and we strongly encourage event...
participants to ask about one another’s vaccination, and raise any concerns or questions with the event host.

**Attending Indoor Activities (e.g. Phone banking, house gatherings, etc.)**
The only way for us to do things together in person is to be vaccinated! As we mentioned in the above section, if volunteers are attending an event with vaccinated individuals, we recommend following the **CDC’s guidance**. We also recommend that Swing Left volunteers thoroughly review whatever in-person activity guidance the campaign or partner organization has released. If a campaign organizes events that individual Swing Left volunteers are uncomfortable engaging in, then Swing Left encourages those volunteers to engage in virtual phone banking and other socially-distanced activities. If necessary, fully vaccinated individuals should contact the event host for specific questions regarding COVID-19 event protocols. The **CDC’s Guiding Principles** for fully vaccinated people recommends that to reduce their risk of becoming infected and potentially spreading it to others, “fully vaccinated people [should] wear a mask in public indoor settings if they are in an area of substantial or high transmission. Fully vaccinated people might choose to mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease, or if someone in their household is unvaccinated.” Volunteers can review key data for monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States via the **CDC’s COVID Data Tracker**. Volunteers should also make sure they are reviewing any state/local guidelines.

**Hosting Indoor Activities by a Swing Left Group**
Swing Left will require event hosts to adhere to the following guidelines before moving forward with hosting an event on behalf of a Swing Left supported candidate(s):

1. Event hosts must be fully vaccinated. If the event is in an area of substantial or high transmission, event hosts can require event volunteers to wear a mask indoors.
2. Review vaccination rates and COVID case rates in the area where the activity is being held:
   a. What % of the population is vaccinated in the area where this activity is taking place according to **COVID Act Now**? Is it higher than 70%?
   b. What are the daily new cases per 100k in the county where this activity is taking place, according to **COVID Act Now**? Are they lower than 4 per 100k?
3. Adhere to the **CDC’s guidance**, and any and all state/local guidance, for fully vaccinated individuals.
4. Answer the aforementioned three-question test:
   a. Does this activity comply with local, state, and federal guidance around re-openings?
   b. Am I comfortable engaging in this activity?
   c. Are all others who will be part of this activity comfortable engaging in it?
Hosting In-Person Canvassing Events by a Swing Left Group

We recommend adhering to the following guidelines around canvass launches:

- Event hosts must be fully vaccinated. If the event is in an area of substantial or high transmission, or where required by state/local law, we recommend event hosts require event volunteers to wear a mask indoors.
- If available, launch canvasses and hold trainings in an outdoor/well ventilated area (front yards, open-door garages, etc). If volunteers need to launch and train indoors, limit them to no more than 15 minutes. If possible, hold canvassing trainings virtually ahead of the canvass - allowing participants to pick up packets or materials in-person and then go knock doors.
- Allow for physical distancing at canvass launch site.
- Maintain physical distancing when talking to voters and never enter their place of residence.

Out-of-State Travel & Carpooling

Swing Left encourages group leaders/volunteers to regularly communicate with their designated Regional Organizing Coordinator or Youth Organizing Board Member if a group of volunteers is interested in traveling to a state on behalf of a supported Swing Left candidate. It is our responsibility to keep each other safe. The only way for us to do things together in person is to be vaccinated! If volunteers are traveling with vaccinated individuals, we recommend following the CDC's guidance.

- Carpool hosts/organizers and event volunteers must be fully vaccinated.
- We encourage volunteers who are participating in an organized carpool to wear masks while in the vehicle, on their way to the canvass site/campaign staging location.
- If carpools are organized by volunteers: We encourage hosts and volunteers attending out of state events to check local vaccination and case rates before hosting or attending an OOS event.

FAQs

Do I need a disclaimer if I'm hosting an in-person event in the Mobilize event description?

All events created through the Swing Left Mobilize account automatically carry a statement at the footer where attendees acknowledge and "assume the risk" of getting COVID if they come to your event. Event hosts are not required to create a specific disclaimer in the event description.

Is there anything else I should be mindful of if I attend in-person activities on behalf of a campaign/candidate?

It is our responsibility to keep each other safe. The only way for us to do things together in person is to be vaccinated! We recommend avoiding large, dense crowds and other highly populated areas, wearing a mask when indoors with others who are not vaccinated or who you do not know
their vaccination status (e.g. grocery stores, public transit), and to wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the restroom or touching high touch surfaces. When washing your hands is not possible, use hand sanitizer.

If I’m organizing or attending an Swing Left in-person event on behalf of a Swing Left supported candidate(s), do I need to be vaccinated? Yes. Swing Left believes that vaccination is the best way to keep each other safe. Participants/volunteers who are not vaccinated are requested to strongly consider instead engaging in virtual phone banking and other socially-distanced activities, and must follow all guidelines regarding physical distancing and masking.

Swing Left will not automatically collect health information/your COVID 19 vaccination card from all hosts and event attendees. But all hosts and event attendees/volunteers must be willing to show proof of vaccination during the event if asked. Event attendees/volunteers: are encouraged to talk about host/volunteers’ vaccination status with everyone participating in a Swing Left event. 

If I’m organizing a Swing Left in-person event on behalf of a Swing Left supported candidate(s), can I ask for proof of vaccination from event participants/volunteers? Yes. You may ask for proof of vaccination from event participants/volunteers. Swing Left also encourages all volunteers to become vaccinated as soon as possible, and Swing Left hosts/volunteers can encourage folks to get vaccinated in their event descriptions as well.

**Please note, while we are asking our event hosts and volunteers to be vaccinated, we cannot guarantee every third-party or Swing Left partner event will have the same in-person activity guidelines. We strongly recommend that Swing Left volunteers thoroughly review any in-person activity guidance the campaign or partner organization has released.**

Last updated July 2022.