



BOEC Enrollment Guidelines for Overnight Program Participation

Updated October 2022

BOEC strongly encourages all participants and volunteers to be fully vaccinated against COVID- however this is no longer a requirement to participate in BOEC programs.

Welcome

The Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center (BOEC) would like to welcome you to your upcoming course. In an effort to prepare and inform you and or your family member for their upcoming adventure, we are asking that you take the time to review this document in its entirety. This document includes essential requirements and details pertaining to how the BOEC is working to manage risks during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are committed to operating our facilities and programs in a manner that provides a safe place for all BOEC staff, participants, and volunteers.

The BOEC is constantly monitoring all federal, state, and local regulations to assist us in determining how to operate our programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. As additional information becomes available through governmental agencies, medical authorities, academic institutions, and professional industry associations, the policies and procedures will be updated. Staff and volunteers will be trained on policies and procedures as they evolve.

COVID-19 Risk Factors

According to the Federal Government the high-risk factors include age (60+) and underlying health conditions, including cardiovascular or respiratory issues, severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher), chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, liver disease, and those who are immunocompromised due to cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications. Residing in a congregate care facility may compound existing individual risk factors.

In addition, while disability alone may not be related to a higher risk for contracting COVID-19 or having a severe illness, individuals with limited mobility or who cannot avoid coming into close contact with others, those who have trouble practicing preventative measures such as hand washing and social distancing, and those who may not be able to communicate symptoms of illness may be at higher risk of becoming infected or having an unrecognized illness.

BOEC reserves the right to screen all participants for eligibility in overnight programming. For those who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 as defined by the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), please

carefully consider, in conjunction with your healthcare provider, whether to attend a BOEC program at this time.

BOEC COVID-19 MITIGATION MEASURES

Currently, BOEC is operating free of COVID-19 mitigation measures, but we continue to monitor the evolving nature of COVID-19 and reserve the right to require mitigation measures during a surge or other concerning future developments. In addition, mitigation measures may be implemented during specific programs with immune-compromised participants or groups. In the event mitigation measures are implemented, participation will be contingent upon the participant's ability and willingness to comply with these measures. Mitigation measures could include, but are not limited to the following:

- Pre-arrival negative COVID-19 test results
- N95/KN95 quality mask worn when indoors or in vehicles
- N95/KN95 quality mask worn when in close proximity to others outdoors.

Expectations

- BOEC strongly encourages all participants and volunteers to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate in any BOEC program however this is no longer a requirement.
- BOEC staff are required to be fully vaccinated.
- Do not come to BOEC if you are sick. You must arrive with no symptoms and maintain no symptoms for the duration of your stay. We require a daily health screening of all participants while you are at BOEC.
- Leading up to your BOEC program it is critical that you exercise extra caution to reduce your risk of exposure to anyone who could be infected with COVID-19 and that you monitor yourself and your family for any symptoms. If you are sick, or someone you have close contact with is sick, be conservative in your approach. Think of the greater community. If we are traveling into a wilderness setting, evacuation may take multiple days or may not even be an option.

**Do not travel to the BOEC if you have COVID-19 symptoms (cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell), have in the past 14 days been in close contact with someone suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19, or if you are confirmed or suspected as having COVID-19 in the past 14 days.*

Additionally, we expect the following:

- Anyone attending our programs must be able to properly wear an appropriate facial covering when asked to do so. We may ask for mask use in some areas depending on the prevalence of COVID-19.
- Any student or approved assistant must pass a symptom and exposure screening at

the entrance of any BOEC program facility.

- Inform us of any COVID-19 symptoms you experience before, during, or after your program or if you have tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days prior to your program or within 5 days after the final day of your BOEC program.

Before Your Program

Take steps to limit your exposure to COVID-19 for 14 days prior to your program:

- Physical distancing.
- Frequent hand washing.
- Monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms.

While Traveling to BOEC

- Wash your hands often.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Keep social distance from others.
- Wear a mask when in public.
- Carry and use sanitizing wipes to clean surfaces you come in contact with.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid dine-in restaurants.

During your program, you can expect

- All students will be required to pass the COVID-19 symptom screening process before being able to join your program.
- Daily Health Screenings.
- Face Coverings to be required whenever applicable.
- Practice physical distancing of at least 6 feet whenever possible.
- Smaller group sizes and cohorts for activities. P
- Personal gear will be assigned for the whole trip, clearly marked and distinguishable from others (PFD, helmet, dry bags, tent, sleep, sleeping pad, etc.).
- Strict Hygiene Standards, we will continually be cleaning and sanitizing high touch surfaces.
- Frequent handwashing and or sanitizing when hand washing is not available.

Food Service Protocols

When packing, preparing, or otherwise handling food or beverages, staff will adhere to applicable local, state, and federal food handling requirements. All prepping surfaces will be disinfected with wipes or disinfectant spray pre and post prep.

Staff Training

Staff training will include BOEC's regular policy and procedures on all activities as well as special training on COVID-19 guidelines. Those guidelines will then be taught to each student.

Patient Care & Management for Participant or Staff with Positive Symptoms

Camping or on the River

- The symptomatic person will immediately be physically distanced (at least six feet) from others and required to wear a KN95 mask for the remainder of the trip without question.
- Family members and friends who are within the household with the person who displayed positive symptoms will also be placed on a separate raft or away from other campers and required to wear a KN 95 face covering.
- We will consult with local agencies on availability and justification for evacuation. If this is not feasible, they will be isolated from others for the remainder of the trip.
- Each mobile program will carry a COVID-19 PPE Kit. This kit contains resources to be used in an incident where there is someone showing signs and symptoms that could possibly be COVID-19.
- One liaison (guide or a caregiver) will be identified to interface with this person to provide care.
 - While treating someone on the trip who is symptomatic, a liaison will wear a KN95 mask.
- BOEC staff will follow EMS/WFR protocols and provide appropriate medical treatment—monitoring temperature, oxygen saturation with pulse oximeter if available, and vital signs.
- Testing for COVID-19 will be performed at the earliest opportunity and BOEC will notify the appropriate agencies along with all staff and other participants on the program of the results. Confidentiality will be maintained by using generic terms to describe a “participant” who has a confirmed (negative or positive) test.

If you would like greater detail of our COVID mitigation plan please review our [BOEC Operations Manual](#) [COVID-19 Response Manual](#). Furthermore, we encourage you to contact our Wilderness office with any questions/concerns around eligibility or these guidelines. Our office number is 970-453-6422 or email our Admissions Director at: claire@boec.org.