

COVID-19 SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



NOLS is excited to welcome you to your upcoming course. We want to ensure you are aware of how we're responding to the coronavirus pandemic so you can make informed decisions. This is a challenging time, but we think it is a challenge we can meet.

Our commitment to risk management guides our operations and the health and wellbeing of our students, faculty, and staff is our priority. NOLS has been actively monitoring and responding to the evolving situation of the coronavirus pandemic. We follow federal, state, and local public health guidance or regulations and consult with peer organizations and medical advisors as we continue to assess our policies and procedures to manage the risk of COVID-19 for NOLS and our local communities. This is an evolving situation and our practices may change as guidance or recommendations change.

NOLS will use medical advice and our best judgment to decide when and under what conditions any courses will operate, and activities or locations of courses may be changed, potentially at the last minute.

Risk is essential to a NOLS education. We operate in dynamic, unpredictable environments and practice thoughtful and effective risk management to attain our educational objectives. Contracting COVID-19, the disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, is a risk for everyone and, like other risks, cannot be eliminated.

We would like to remind you that the NOLS Student Agreement that you signed includes pertinent statements about medical conditions and our ability to manage them. The following is a summary of those statements.

- The medical information given to NOLS is accurate and all pertinent medical conditions have been disclosed.
- I understand that NOLS' admission of me (or the minor student) to the course is not intended as a representation that NOLS staff will be able to manage successfully a medical event or emergency related to a disclosed, or undisclosed, medical condition.
- NOLS reserves the right to refuse admission or remove a student from a course for any reason it deems is in the best interest of the student or the school.

The NOLS Student Agreement also outlines risks including:

- At times students will be in close physical proximity to one another or instructors.
- Illnesses may include...communicable and other infectious diseases from insects, animals, or people such as diarrhea, flu-like or respiratory illness, and other debilitating or life-threatening conditions including COVID-19 and other diseases caused by coronaviruses.
- The remote locations of our courses may be many days from medical facilities. Communication and transportation are difficult and evacuations and medical care may be significantly delayed.
- Decisions made by the instructors, other staff (including volunteers), contractors and students will be based on a variety of perceptions and evaluations, which by their nature are imprecise and subject to errors in judgment. Misjudgments may pertain to, among other things...medical conditions.

BEFORE YOUR COURSE

NOLS requires that you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Exemptions for medical reasons or firmly held religious beliefs may be granted, but on some courses, exemptions will not be allowed due to the unique aspects of the course. Even if fully vaccinated, we may require students to exercise certain precautions before attending the course.

People who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 as defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), including people greater than 64 years old or people of any age with chronic lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, diabetes, liver or kidney disease, who are immunocompromised, or have severe obesity (BMI of 40 or higher) should carefully consider, in conjunction with their health care provider, whether to attend NOLS at this time.

We request that you take steps to limit your exposure to SARS-CoV-2 for 14 days prior to and while traveling to your course. This includes avoiding crowded indoor or outdoor spaces, practicing physical (social) distancing, wearing a face mask when in public indoor spaces and on public transportation, frequent hand washing, and monitoring your health for

symptoms of COVID-19. You are responsible for complying with any and all regulations related to COVID-19 during travel prior to the designated start date and time of your course.

Please do not travel to your NOLS course 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 you are confirmed or suspected as having COVID-19.

DURING YOUR COURSE

When you arrive at your NOLS location, if you have symptoms of COVID-19, we will separate you from the group, seek medical advice, and a COVID-19 test. Students who test positive for COVID-19 within 10 days of course start will not be allowed to go on the course.

Our practices in the field are subject to change as we respond to how the pandemic evolves with different variants and changing guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other health guidance. Our most cautious practices include physical distancing, wearing face masks, and reducing capacity of sleeping shelters. If, after 10 days, no one is presenting COVID-19 symptoms, we may switch to regular camping practices.

You will be expected to wash or sanitize your hands regularly and at other times as necessary. We will provide soap and hand sanitizer for your use. You will be expected to participate in and follow our hygiene practices throughout your course.

For these measures to be effective it will require commitment and diligence from you and all our students and staff. Students who, in our judgement, do not comply with these expectations may be expelled from the course.

We will monitor students' health and if, during the first 10 days of your course, someone develops symptoms of COVID-19, we will care for them in ways to limit close contact with others, seek medical advice, and follow our COVID-19 illness guidelines which may include evacuation and it's possible that the whole course may need to be evacuated. If you or someone on your course, either during the course or afterwards, is found to be COVID-19 positive we will cooperate with public health authorities with contact tracing as necessary.

If a student is evacuated, the possibility of them rejoining their course will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Considerations include, but are not limited to, their health status, course logistics, the amount of course time missed, and other factors.

As is noted in the Student Agreement, all costs associated with an evacuation from a course are the responsibility of the student or the student's family. We have limited ability to house evacuees at our campuses, and they may need to stay in local lodging until they are able or allowed, per medical advice, to return home or possibly rejoin their course. Students will need to make their own travel arrangements to return home. NOLS may be able to provide some assistance in finding lodging or arranging travel.

I (or the parent or guardian of a minor student) have read and acknowledge the information regarding the risk of COVID-19 on my NOLS course. I intend an electronic signature or an electronic copy of my signature to be as valid as an original handwritten signature.

_____ Student Signature	_____ Age	_____/_____/_____ Date Signed	_____ Printed Name
_____ Parent/Guardian Signature	_____ Date Signed	_____ Printed Name	

Please return both pages of this document to NOLS.