

NEC Statement Regarding Coronavirus

February 29, 2020

Thank you for your plans to attend the [2020 National Earthquake Conference \(NEC2020\)](#). In consideration of the coronavirus (COVID-19), we are providing the following information.

The NEC organizing team is following CDC guidance to institute precautions in light of the low, but real, risk of the virus.

How can you protect yourself from viruses?

Practice everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

What is the NEC doing to limit virus risk during the gathering?

- Hand and cell phone sanitizing material will be available for use throughout the venue.
- Surfaces will be wiped down frequently with antibacterial and other cleaning wipes.
- Attendees will be urged to avoid shaking hands and consider adopting an alternative greeting method like an elbow “bump” or another non-contact method.

Above all, anyone who thinks they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should not attend the conference. If you become ill during the meeting, we ask you to please leave immediately and contact a health care provider.

While the coronavirus hazard is real, government officials advise that the risk is still low. As such, we are confident in moving forward with the NEC. However, registered attendees must make their own decisions regarding travel and participation because the situation is both dynamic and beyond our ability to control. Thank you for following the simple but vital safety and prevention recommendations outlined above and for doing your part to mitigate the risk in this situation.

Visit www.CDC.gov or www.SanDiegoCounty.gov for more information regarding coronavirus. For questions regarding the National Earthquake Conference, email Info@FLASH.org or call (877) 221-SAFE (7233).