



## BIRMINGHAM-JEFFERSON CONVENTION COMPLEX AUTHORITY UPDATE ON COVID-19

The health and safety of our Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex (BJCC) employees, guests, and customers remains our top priority. The Alabama Department of Public Health and the Jefferson County Health Department are working to prepare for possible COVID-19 occurrences in Alabama. The BJCC are exceeding all recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), are monitoring local developments, and continue to take all appropriate precautions.

Mass gatherings of any kind present a risk of exposure to illnesses. Public safety is strengthened when everyone complies with good hygiene practices. The CDC recommends specific actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases and the BJCC encourages everyone to follow their guidance:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth
- Stay home when sick
- Cover cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol

### Onsite Response

The BJCC is exceeding all recommendations by the CDC for cleaning and disinfecting public areas. On August 21, 2020, The BJCC earned the STAR™ Facility Accreditation on cleaning, disinfection and infectious disease prevention, granted through the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC). The GBAC STAR is the industry's leading outbreak prevention, response and recovery accreditation. The BJCC is the first facility in the state of Alabama to obtain this designation.

The accreditation process evaluates the facility's proficiency within 20 key efforts, ranging from standard operating procedures and risk assessment strategies to personal protective equipment and response measures to combat biohazards and infectious diseases, including the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). These sanitation protocols also cover any areas with an increased probability of germs being exchanged or left on surfaces such as door handles, handrails, and elevator buttons. As a standard practice, BJCC staff members are also trained on bloodborne pathogen protocols.

COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation. The Alabama Department of Public Health and the CDC are providing updated information and guidance as it becomes available. The BJCC recommends guests review the following resources for the most up-to-date information:

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- Alabama Department of Health  
<http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/infectiousdiseases/2019-coronavirus.html>
- Jefferson County Health Department  
<https://www.jcdh.org/SitePages/Misc/PdfViewer?AdminUploadId=705>
- UAB Medicine Coronavirus Resources <https://www.uab.edu/news/coronavirus>
- Centers for Disease Control <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- World Health Organization  
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

The Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex (BJCC) is Alabama's premier sports, convention and entertainment center. It is home to two exhibition halls offering 220,000 square feet for trade shows and exhibitions, as well as three entertainment venues including the state's largest arena and concert hall. The BJCC campus also includes the Uptown Entertainment District, The Westin Birmingham Hotel and Alabama's largest hotel, the 757-room Sheraton Birmingham. Visit [www.bjcc.org](http://www.bjcc.org) for more information.