

Event Cancellation Insurance FAQ

As Coronavirus COVID-19 has been top of mind, especially in the association sector where conventions, exhibitions, events, and annual meetings are approaching, many questions are arising around event cancellation insurance policies. These FAQs are provided to help inform and provide available resources as it relates to event cancellation insurance.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The statements contained in this FAQ document are in no way a determination or affirmation of coverage and do not speak for all insurance policy provisions offered by all providers. Please refer to your organization's event cancellation insurance policy as the precise coverage afforded is subject to the terms, conditions, and exclusions of the event cancellation policy as issued.

1. What does Event Cancellation Insurance provide?

A: By standard definition in the insurance marketplace, Event Cancellation Insurance provides coverage for the loss of revenue derived from OR expenses committed to an event due to a cancellation, abandonment, interruption, curtailment, postponement or relocation due to a cause of loss which isn't excluded and is beyond your organization's control and the control of those attending. These standard provisions may vary by provider.

2. While there a multitude of event cancellation insurance products / providers in the insurance marketplace, what is the basic outline of the ASAE-Endorsed Showstoppers Event Cancellation policy underwritten by Aon Affinity Nonprofits?

A: See this [Highlight sheet](#) that provides a list of program features.

The Communicable Disease Extension had been an elective option previously and a standard exclusion applies with respect to standard policy language. As of late March 2020, there is no limited communicable disease coverage option available, even one excluding Coronavirus COVID-19.

3. What are some common exclusions in Event Cancellation insurance?

A: Some common exclusions include but are not limited to the following;

- Financial causes, including but not limited to Financial Failure and Insolvency
- Disinclination to travel to or attend the event
- Communicable Disease including Fear or Threat
- Terrorism, Threat of Terrorism or Fear of Terrorism
- War and Military Action
- Biological, Chemical, or Nuclear Hazards
- Pollution or Contamination
- Pre-existing threatened or existing circumstances

Some of these exclusions can be purchased for an additional premium. The above list is not exhaustive. Please check your policy wording for a full list of terms and conditions and exclusions.

4. Do other event cancellation policies provide coverage for Coronavirus COVID-19?

A: To our knowledge at this time, providers of event cancellation insurance consider the Coronavirus COVID-19 a pre-existing condition, and it is therefore excluded from event cancellation policies from late January 2020 onward.

In addition, as of late March 2020, there is no limited communicable disease coverage option available, even one excluding Coronavirus COVID-19.

5. What happens if an association cancels an event in the U.S. due to nonparticipation or fear of participation due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 as related to their Showstoppers policy?

A: Disinclination to attend, fear or threat of a communicable disease would not be covered even if a communicable disease extension has been purchased, an insured must demonstrate that any decision to cancel the event was taken after reference to advice given by the WHO, CDC or US Government that events cannot proceed or it is unsafe to travel. Fear, threat and disinclination would not be covered. An insured may take a view as to whether or not they wish to proceed with the event, but this doesn't necessarily mean that coverage under the policy will trigger.

Each policy must be reviewed for specific language pertaining to communicable disease along with exclusions present on the policy.

6. Who should be contacted with questions about their event cancellation policy?

A: If the policy was purchased through Aon Affinity Nonprofits, these contact options are available:

- Your organization's insurance agent/broker
- Aon's Seth Fleischer (seth.fleischer@aon.com or 800.432.7465 x 8532)
- Aon's Eileen Hoffman (Eileen.hoffman@aon.com or 800.432.7465 x 5333)
- ASAE Business Solutions (businesssolutions@asaecenter.org or 888.950.2723 x 2880)

If the policy was purchased outside of the ASAE Insurance Source, these options are available:

- Your organization's insurance agent/broker

7. What resources are available to keep abreast of the Coronavirus as it relates to events?

A: Here are several resources that may provide insight:

- [ASAE's Issue Roundup](#): Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19): web page that will be continually updated to provide current incidence statistics, links to webcasts, and information surrounding related news stories.
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#): CDC's resource page
- [World Health Organization](#): link to *Key planning recommendations for Mass Gatherings*
- [PCMA](#): link to *What business events professionals need to know about the COVID-19 Coronavirus*

This information has been provided as an informational resource for Aon clients and business partners. It is intended to provide general guidance on potential exposures and is not intended to provide medical advice or address medical concerns or specific risk circumstances. Due to the dynamic nature of infectious diseases, Aon cannot be held liable for the guidance provided. We strongly encourage visitors to seek additional safety, medical and epidemiologic information from credible sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and World Health Organization. As regards insurance coverage questions, whether coverage applies or a policy will respond to any risk or circumstance is subject to the specific terms and conditions of the policies and contracts at issue and underwriter determinations.