

DevOpsDays Chicago

Health and Safety Update

March 9, 2020

Hello all! With the global concerns around the COVID-19 coronavirus, we wanted to update all our attendees, sponsors, speakers, etc. on the plans for [DevOpsDays Chicago](#) in September.

We're still holding the event as scheduled. We're a smaller event, most of our attendees are local, and the event is six months away so we believe the risk to be very limited. Of course we will continue to monitor the situation going forward and update this statement as needed. Watch [our Web site](#) or follow our Twitter at [@DevOpsDaysChi](#) for updates.

We plan to take additional steps to ensure a healthy environment, following the [CDC](#) and [Harvard Medical School](#) recommendations:

- Anyone who has been in a [US CDC Warning Level 3 country](#) in the 14 days prior to the event may not attend (Aug 15, 2020).
- Anyone who has been in contact with someone that had COVID-19 or related symptoms (fever, cough) in the previous 14 days may not attend.
- Anyone displaying any "flu-like" symptoms at the time or in the previous 14 days may not attend.
- AV gear will be disinfected between speakers.
- We will work with our venue (UIC Forum, University of Illinois at Chicago) to ensure health and safety for the conference as appropriate at the time.
- Providing disinfectants, hand sanitizer, etc

We have every confidence the event will be great as usual and look forward to seeing you all there. Do please take care in regard to your travel plans, however.

- **Consider making refundable travel plans** (many airlines and hotels are waiving change fees in some situations). Also, make sure you're not traveling to any countries on the [US CDC Warning Level 3](#) list in the 14 days prior to DevOpsDays Chicago.
- **Ensure you are comfortable attending before you book. We are not able to offer refunds for speakers or sponsors.** Please understand, we are a community-organized event, and the money we take in from sponsor and ticket sales is immediately used to pay for the venue, food, and the other expenses to put on the event for you. We don't have corporate backing or other financial backstops to cover any non-refundable fees that have been paid.
- One exception - attendees not able to attend because they are ill or potentially exposed at the time of the event, or attendees who aren't able to attend due to other health concerns will be refunded to the best of our financial ability.
- If the conference is canceled by events beyond our control (e.g. venue shutdown or government edict) we will do our best to refund everyone as we are able; this is contingent on getting a refund from our venue based on force majeure and we can not absolutely guarantee it.
- Sponsors, please contact us to discuss options if you have travel restrictions. Consider sending local staff in lieu of travel. We will actively manage expectations with attendees and make sure that you still get plenty of recognition.