

COVID-19 Accommodations for Alcohol Waiver AA Meeting Requirement

In consideration of the need for social distancing to mitigate spread of COVID-19, many Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) groups have temporarily discontinued face-to-face meetings. Some have gone to online formats, while others have suspended meeting altogether. Section 14.13 of the ARWG states that prior approval by NAMI is required for alternatives to face-to-face meetings. This notice will serve as authorization for aviation personnel on alcohol waivers to attend virtual meetings, meetings via email, phone, and social media, for the purpose of meeting waiver requirements. This authorization will remain in effect until 30 September 2022. Should circumstances make it necessary, that date may be extended by a future notice.

N.B.: The requirement for documentation of AA meeting participation remains in effect. The method of documentation may vary depending on the meeting format; that documentation must be provided to the DAPA/SACO at their regular monthly meetings.

Information on virtual meetings is available via the Alcoholics Anonymous Web site at www.aa.org. AA provides a free-of-charge meeting finder app, "Meeting Guide," for both iOS and Android devices. Information about local meetings may also be obtained by calling the local AA Intergroup office.

NAMI Psychiatry may be contacted for further guidance.