

In light of the latest COVID-19 developments, the World Health Organization declaration of a pandemic, the President's National Emergency declaration, the White House and CDC guidelines recommending the cancellation of gathering of more than 50 people, state and local restrictions regarding shelter in place and size of gatherings, and jurisdictional travel restrictions, with the approval of its Executive Board, the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) has cancelled its Annual Conference, scheduled for June 28-July 2, 2020 in Seattle, Washington, and all affiliated events.

During this unprecedented time, we recognize that public health epidemiologists must remain in their jurisdictions to support ongoing epidemiological and surveillance efforts that directly impact event response to COVID-19. We are so proud of the service of our members and to be serving you in these challenging times. CSTE's strength is our membership and the commitment to our vision: "using the power of epidemiology to improve the public's health".

For attendees that have already registered for the 2020 Annual Conference and booked hotel accommodations through CSTE's official housing provider, Orchid Events, no action is required on your part. Your meeting registration will automatically be cancelled, and a full refund will be issued via your original payment method within 30 days. All hotel reservations made through Orchid Events will be automatically cancelled without penalty. Attendees will receive separate email notifications on registration and housing once processed. Attendees are responsible for cancelling any hotel or airline reservations made outside of the official booking process. In addition, if you are a sponsored traveler, you will receive an email next week with additional information about cancellation of travel arrangements.

We are working on alternative plans for Executive Board elections, Position Statements, and select workshops and will communicate those details separately once they are developed.

We are committed to providing the important information on COVID-19 critical issues for our members. CSTE will continue to keep our membership informed of the latest updates and resources at <https://preparedness.cste.org/>. Thank you for your continued commitment to CSTE and dedication to public health in the U.S.

For more information, please visit [www.cste.org](http://www.cste.org) or contact the National Office at 770-458-3811.

Sincerely,

CSTE National Office