

Student Center

Catering and Food Guidelines

The SIU Student Center has adjusted its catering and food guidelines in response to COVID-19. We are exercising the utmost caution and taking responsible action to help ensure the health and well-being of the campus community. Outside of the adjusted policies, all other standard guidelines apply.

1. If you are requesting to serve food during an event, please refer to the following guidelines for food service:
 - a. Restore Illinois Guidelines: <https://dceocovid19resources.com/restore-illinois-phase-4/indoor-and-outdoor-dining/>
 - b. CDC's COVID-19 considerations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/business-employers/bars-restaurants.html>.
2. Food must be supplied by a Student Center approved caterer or groups may serve individually prepackaged items.
3. Individually prepackaged items must be distributed in a safe manner:
 - a. People sharing utensils and congregating around food service areas poses a risk for the transmission of COVID-19.
 - b. Therefore, items should not be distributed in a self-serve format and must be distributed by an individual using safety precautions that includes gloves and masks.
 - c. Hand sanitizer must be available on the food table or in the room where the food is served.
4. For catered meals, self-serve food and drink options, such as buffets and drink stations are not allowed. In addition, water carafes on tables are not allowed. Individual drinks (like bottled water) and served drinks are required. All caterers must follow Restore Illinois Guidelines for food service.
5. Prepacked box lunches or sealed bag lunches are also permitted from approved caterers like Subway or Panera.
6. No shared pizza is allowed. Individual or personal pizzas and individually packaged slices are permitted.
7. It is recommended that groups use disposable food service items including utensils and dishes. If disposable items are not feasible or desirable, ensure that all non-disposable food service items are handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water or in a dishwasher by the caterer.
8. Groups will be required to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces. Any cleaning products and hand sanitizer are to be provided by the group. The Student Center will disinfect the room before and after use and per discussions with individual groups.
9. Groups must require that individuals remain at least 6 feet apart when waiting in line to receive food.