

April 3, 2020

Fire Marshal's Office Service Updates – COVID-19

Building safety and fire mitigation remain an essential service during the pandemic. The Seattle Fire Department's Fire Marshal's Office is staying open and will continue to provide service to our customers involved in maintaining and operating buildings safely as well as construction deemed essential. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are actively adjusting our business practices to best serve our customers while following the current best practices to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please check this page regularly for the most up-to-date information about our services. We understand these service changes may be inconvenient and frustrating to our customers. We hope by taking these steps we can help slow the spread of the virus in our community.

Service Updates and Adjustments As Of April 3, 2020

Certification Examinations – In-Person Testing Temporarily Discontinued, Renewals by Mail Continuing as Normal

- [Fire Marshal's letter](#) explains this decision and how technicians can continue to work in the field with your existing certification during the period testing is suspended.

Code Complaints – Regular Services Available by [Email](#)

Code Questions – Regular Services Available by [Email](#)

Inspections – Providing Services and Inspections

- **Code compliance inspections, high-rise building inspections, SFD hazmat/assembly permit** inspections are available. Schedule using our regular scheduling process.
- **Construction permitting fire inspections** are available for projects deemed essential per the [Governor's Order](#) and [clarifying memo](#). Learn more about how to schedule inspections during the Stay at Home Order [here](#).
- Where it is preferable from a public health perspective to defer work in a specific occupancy or portion of an occupancy, the inspection must be postponed. This will be addressed at time of scheduling or on the job site.
- No fees will be charged for inspections that are postponed due to COVID considerations.
- Field personnel and techs must follow all recommendations suggested by [King County Public Health](#) including maintaining a 6 foot social distance.

Plan Review – Regular Services Provided Online and By [Email](#)

- Submit plans and corrections as usual through [Seattle Services Portal](#) and review SDCI's [online services](#).

Systems Testing Guidance – Building Owners Should Continue to Maintain Fire Safe Buildings and Equipment

- Follow [recommendations](#) for testing personnel suggested by King County Public Health.
- [Email](#) to request extension for testing in occupancies where there is a public health consideration. Red tags must be repaired.
- See also [NFPA Guidance on Testing During Pandemic](#) and [Fire Marshal's Email to ITM Companies](#).

Special Events – Events Suspended as of Monday, March 16, 2020, until at least May 4

- Contact us at permits@seattle.gov to reschedule or receive a full refund for your permit fees.

Walk In Service Counter at 220 3rd Ave South (Fire Marshal's Office) – Temporarily Closed

- The best method to conduct business with SFD is [email](#). We are maintaining continued staffing levels to all our dedicated email accounts. The City is strongly encouraging employees to work from home. Staffing for phones will be limited and wait times will be longer than usual.