

COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR BUSINESSES



To help slow an alarming surge of COVID-19 cases in our region, there is new statewide guidance for restaurants and businesses operating in the City of Seattle. The guidance outlined below joins existing public health requirements for businesses such as:

- Requiring patrons to wear a protective face covering over their nose and mouth.
- Complying with physical distancing
- Maintaining applicable business occupancy guidelines and other personal protective behaviors required by a statewide order.

Violation of this order is a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 90 days in jail and up to a \$100 fine. Businesses that routinely violate the order could lose their business license.

Effective now through Dec. 14, 2020:

Restaurants and Bars are closed for indoor dine-in service. Outdoor dining and to-go service are permitted, provided that all outdoor dining comply with the requirements of the Outdoor Dining Guidance. Table size for outdoor dining is limited to a maximum of five (5) people from outside the same household.

Fitness Facilities and Gyms are closed for indoor operations. Outdoor fitness classes are permitted but shall be limited to five (5) people from outside your household. Bowling Centers are closed for indoor service.

Movie Theaters are closed for indoor service. Drive-in movie theaters are permitted and must continue to follow current drive-in movie theater guidance.

Museums/Zoos/Aquariums are closed for indoor service.

Real Estate: Open houses are prohibited.

In-Store Retail shall be limited to 25 percent of indoor occupancy limits, and common/congregate seating areas and indoor dining facilities such as food courts are closed.

Professional Services are required to mandate that employees work from home when possible and close offices to the public if possible. Offices that must remain open must limit occupancy to 25 percent of indoor occupancy limits.

Personal Services are limited to 25 percent of indoor occupancy limits. Personal service providers include: cosmetologists, cosmetology testing, hairstylists, barbers,

estheticians, master estheticians, manicurists, nail salon workers, electrologists, permanent makeup artists, tanning salons, and tattoo artists.

Long-term Care facilities are permitted to have outdoor visits. Indoor visits are prohibited, but individual exceptions for an essential support person or end-of-life care are permitted.

Face Coverings Required in Businesses

Business patrons are required to wear a protective face covering unless they are:

- Children younger than five years old.
- People with a medical condition, mental health condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes, but is not limited to, people with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.

Acceptable Removal of Face Coverings

Additionally, businesses may allow an individual to remove their face covering under the following circumstances:

- While in an outdoor public area, provided that a distance of at least six feet is maintained from non-household members.
- When any party to a communication is deaf or hard of hearing and not wearing a face covering is essential to communication.
- When obtaining a service that requires temporary removal of the face covering.
- When necessary to confirm the individual's identity
- When federal or state law prohibits wearing a face covering or requires removing a face covering.

Questions about this requirement?

Please call 206-684-2489 or visit

www.seattle.gov/business-regulations/business-and-restaurant-requirements-during-covid-19

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