

Miscellaneous Venues

COVID-19 Requirements

Summary of March 17 changes:

- Addition of Phase 3 guidance.

Summary of February 1, changes:

All Phases:

- Any other business activity not specifically mentioned in this document, that can also be conducted in a miscellaneous venue, is permitted with the same requirements as the business-specific guidance. Examples include retail, personal services, religious services, etc. Occupancy limits of the specific activity govern, with the exception of retail activity (see specific retail occupancy below).
- Meal/food service must follow eating and drinking guidance.

Miscellaneous venues are permitted to operate, provided all requirements in this document are met. For purposes of this guidance, miscellaneous venues (referred to as “venue” hereafter) include the following: convention/conference centers, designated meeting space in a hotel, events centers, fairgrounds, sporting arenas, nonprofit establishment, or a substantially similar venue. Any business activity currently permitted that can also be conducted in a miscellaneous venue, is permitted with the same requirements as the business-specific guidance (examples include: retail, personal services, religious services, etc.). Occupancy limits of the specific activity govern. The exception is for retail activity which must follow the occupancy limits in this document. Each venue must adopt a written procedure for operations at least as protective as the specific requirements outlined below and complies with all worker safety and health requirements.

Phase 1:

1. All in-person business meetings are prohibited.
2. Only professional training and testing that cannot be performed remotely, as well as all court and judicial branch-related proceedings, are allowed. Occupancy in each meeting room/area is limited to 25 percent capacity or 100 people, whichever is fewer (excluding staff).
3. Occupancy for an indoor retail event is limited to 25 percent capacity, up to 100 people, (this includes exhibitors and excludes staff) whichever is fewer. Outdoor capacity capped at 100 people. For very large venues over 100,000 sq. ft. in size. The capacity is capped at 150 people (this includes exhibitors and excludes staff).

Phase 2:

1. In-person business meetings are permitted. Professional training and testing that cannot be performed remotely, as well as all court and judicial branch-related proceedings, are allowed. Occupancy in each room/area is limited to 25 percent capacity or 200 people, whichever is fewer (excludes staff).
2. Occupancy for an indoor retail event is limited to 25 percent capacity, up to 200 people (this includes exhibitors and excludes staff), whichever is fewer. Outdoor capacity capped at 200 people. For very large venues over 100,000 sq.ft. in size, the capacity is capped at 300 people (this includes exhibitors and excludes staff).

Phase 3:

1. In-person business meetings (including recovery groups), professional training and testing, as well as all court and judicial branch-related proceedings, are allowed. Occupancy in each room/area is limited to 50 percent capacity or 400 people, whichever is fewer (excludes staff). For venues over 100,000 sq. ft. in size, the capacity is capped at 600 people (this includes exhibitors and excludes staff). Groups of up to ten people may be seated together. There must be six feet of physical distance between groups/tables.

General Requirements for all phases

1. When feasible, organizers should ensure all attendees are pre-registered and retain contact information for all attendees for 28 days.
2. Stagger attendee move-in and move-outs to reduce gathering in groups.
3. Adjust scheduled activities, etc. to minimize attendees in common areas.
4. Adjust and/or remove public seating areas to ensure physical distancing is maintained.
5. Adhere to CDC elevator and escalator protocols. Also, post signs strongly advising no talking in elevators.
6. Venues must ensure persons engaging in an activity conducted both indoors and outdoors, wear a proper face covering and maintain six feet of physical distance between other persons.
7. Any food service at venues must follow the guidance for [eating and drinking establishments](#).
8. Frequently clean high-touch surfaces.
9. Payment Handling: When possible, allow mobile, credit card, or other cash-free payment options.
10. Staff will disinfect check-out counters and payment touchpads at least every hour.
11. Provide handwashing or hand sanitizer for employees handling payment.
12. Use timed ticketing or on-line/phone reservations for any activity, when possible.
13. Provide sufficient hand sanitizing stations for customers.
14. Ensure each meeting room is properly cleaned/sanitized between uses.
15. Adjust mechanical ventilation systems to bring in as much outside air as possible. Increase filters to MERV 13 if the HVAC can accommodate. Keep doors and windows open where possible and utilize fans to improve ventilation.
16. At least one COVID-19 Program Supervisor shall be present during every event to ensure masking and social distancing practices are enforced and practices by all event attendees.

Safety and Health Requirements

Venues must ensure strict adherence to all measures established by the Governor's guidance, the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I), Coronavirus (COVID-19) Prevention: General Requirements <https://lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/F414-164-000.pdf>, and the Washington State Department of Health Workplace and Employer Resources & Recommendations <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Coronavirus/Workplace> (DOH).

All venue owners have a general obligation to maintain a safe and healthy workplace in accordance with state and federal law and safety and health rules for a variety of workplace hazards. Employers must specifically ensure operations follow the main Labor & Industries COVID-19 requirements to protect workers. COVID-19 workplace and safety requirements can be found [here](#).

No venue may operate until it can meet and maintain all the requirements in this document, including providing materials, schedules and equipment required to comply. Additional considerations may be adopted, as appropriate.

All issues regarding worker safety and health are subject to enforcement action under L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH).

- Employers can request COVID-19 prevention advice and help from L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) : www.Lni.wa.gov/DOSHConsultation.
- Employee Workplace safety and health complaints may be submitted to the L&I DOSH Call Center: (1-800-423-7233) or via e-mail to adag235@lni.wa.gov.
- General questions about how to comply with agreement practices can be submitted to the state's Business Response Center at <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/how-you-can-help/covid-19-business-and-worker-inquiries>
- All other violations related to Proclamation 20-25 can be submitted at <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/report-safe-start-violation>.