

Many King County facilities are closed to the public. Learn how to access services remotely or while following social distancing guidelines. >



Safe Start King County

King County is now in modified Phase 1

The status of activities listed on this page are subject to change at any time. If you've visited this page before, be sure to press Refresh or Reload on your web browser menu to ensure you're viewing the latest version of this page.

NOTICE

Working together, our community has slowed the spread of COVID-19. Now, King County is working to gradually and carefully reopen the local economy.

On Friday, June 5th the Washington State Department of Health accepted our plan to allow for limited openings of recreational, social and business activities in a modified Phase 1 of the Governor Jay Inslee's Safe Start reopening plan. Activities may not begin until businesses are able to meet the state's public health guidance.

The State's plan creates four phases that gradually increase activities based on the prevalence of disease and the ability to mitigate community transmission of the virus. King County is currently in Phase 1.5 of the four phases, which allows for partial re-opening of some businesses and activities.

Nearly all types of activities that are allowed in Phase 2 are allowed in a modified Phase 1, just at lower capacities and with 30-minute time limits for indoor real estate, professional services, and retail services. Generally speaking, modified Phase 1 allows indoor activities at half of the capacity allowed by Phase 2 and at full capacity of what's allowed outdoors in Phase 2. Businesses are directed to provide signage encouraging indoor visits to less than 30 minutes, with face-to-face interactions limited to 30 minutes.

Details about the activities in different phases of the Safe Start re-opening plan are available on the Governor's website.

What activities are allowed under a modified Phase 1 application:

Pending a business' ability to follow the State's public health guidance (linked below), the following businesses and activities are now permitted in King County:

Activity area	Limits and requirements
Outdoor recreation	<p>All activities may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance, part one, two and three. Requirements for professional sporting, and outdoor youth and adult recreation teams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modified Phase 1: miniature golf, putt putt golf, and staffed water recreation facilities (public and private) COVID-19 reopening requirements • Updated: Golf Restart Phase 2 COVID-19 requirements and recommendations
Fitness	<p>All outdoor activities may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance, which limits the occupants to no more than five people outside of a household (excluding the instructor). Indoor fitness studios may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance but is limited to one on one activities only.</p>
Social gatherings	<p>Only allowed outdoors with five or fewer people outside the household.</p>
Additional construction	<p>All activities may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance.</p>
Manufacturing operations	<p>All activities may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance.</p>
Real estate** (residential and commercial)	<p>All activities may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance with the exception that at no time may an office's occupancy be higher than 25% and indoor services are limited to 30 minutes.</p>
In-home/domestic services	<p>All activities may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance.</p>
In-store retail**	<p>All non-essential retail activities may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance with the exception that at no time may an establishment's occupancy be higher than 15% and indoor services are limited to 30 minutes.</p>
Personal services	<p>All activities may operate subject to Phase 2 guidance with the exception that at no time may the number of customers be more than 25% the number capable of being served at any one time, or 1 person if it is a single bed/chair studio.</p>

Activity area	Limits and requirements
Professional services**	All activities may operate subject to <u>Phase 2 guidance</u> with the exception that at no time may an establishment's occupancy be higher than 25% and indoor services are limited to 30 minutes.
Photography	All activities may operate subject to <u>Phase 2 guidance</u> .
Pet grooming	All activities may operate subject to <u>Phase 2 guidance</u> with the exception that at no time may an establishment's occupancy be higher than 25%.
Restaurants	<p>All outdoor dining activities may operate subject to <u>Phase 2 guidance</u> at 50% outdoor capacity with all tables and chairs maintaining 6 feet of distance. Additional or new outdoor seating would be allowed subject to maintaining 6 feet of distance between tables and chairs, as well as receiving a city permit as is typically needed. All indoor dining services may operate subject to <u>Phase 2 guidance</u> with the exception that at no time may the number of customers be more than 25% of the tables provided such tables and chairs are more than 6 feet away from each other.</p> <p>See also: <u>Modified Phase 1 guidance for King County restaurants</u>.</p>

*This does not apply to faith or religious gatherings which will continue to operate according to Phase 1 guidance by the State allowing up to 100 people outdoors, excluding staff.

**Real estate, professional services, and in-store retail businesses will be directed to provide signage encouraging indoor visits to less than 30 minutes. At no time may face to face interactions last longer than 30 minutes.

Who will be enforcing the rules around modified Phase 1?

Washington businesses that open or operate in direct violation of Gov. Inslee's order may be cited and fined for unsafe workplace conditions under emergency rules filed by the state Department of Labor & Industries. Workplace safety and health complaints may be submitted to the State Department of Labor and Industries Call Center: 1-800-423-7233.

Who can I contact if I have questions about how a modified Phase 1 applies to my business?

General questions from employers about the Safe Start plan can be directed to the state's Business Response Center. Questions can also be directed to the King County COVID-19 Business and Community Information line: 206-296-1608.

Will there be additional guidance from Public Health – Seattle & King County?

We will release new guidance outlining best practices for a restaurant to expand or add new outdoor capacity. Other than that, businesses should follow the State's existing Phase 2 guidance with an adjusted capacity limit as noted here. Additionally, retail, professional services, and real estate businesses must also include signage informing customers for the need to limit face to face interactions to 30 minutes or less.

As people come into closer contact, what can people do to protect themselves and others?

Maintaining the safety principles that led to the success against the outbreak has never been more important. These include continuing to practice physical distancing of 6 feet or more, minimizing contact with others outside the home, frequent hand washing or sanitizer, use of cloth face coverings in public, and avoiding group gatherings and poorly ventilated spaces.

 **Link/share our site at www.kingcounty.gov/Safe-Start**

Last Updated June 12, 2020