

COVID-19 GUIDANCE: Outdoor Seated Live Events and Performances

March 26, 2021

Effective April 1, 2021

This guidance is designed to address sectors and activities opening statewide. However, local health officers may implement more stringent rules tailored to local epidemiological conditions, so employers should also confirm relevant local opening policies.

OVERVIEW

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the health of Californians. Reported illness ranges from very mild (some people have no symptoms) to severe illness that may result in death. Certain groups, including those with serious underlying medical conditions, such as heart or lung disease or diabetes, are at higher risk of hospitalization and serious complications. In addition, the risk of more severe disease and death increases with increasing age. As the pandemic has unfolded, we have learned that many organs can be affected by COVID-19 and there are many ways the infection can affect someone's health.

While most persons with COVID-19 recover and return to their baseline level of health, some people can have symptoms that can last for weeks or even months after recovery from acute illness. Even people who are not hospitalized and who have mild illness can experience persistent or late symptoms.

Transmission is most likely when people are in close contact or in a poorly ventilated area with an infected person. Transmission can occur when the infected person has symptoms, is without symptoms, or has not yet developed symptoms. Virus particles can travel more than six feet in indoor spaces and remain suspended in air even after an infected person has left the room. Indoor settings pose a much higher risk of transmission than outdoor settings. When an infected person does certain activities, such as singing or chanting, loud talking, or heavy breathing, for example with exercise, it can further increase risk compared to normal breathing and talking.

Therefore, it is essential that all possible steps be taken to ensure the safety of workers and the public.

Key prevention practices include:

- ✓ physical distancing to the maximum extent possible,
- ✓ use of face coverings by workers (where respiratory protection is not already required) and customers/clients,
- ✓ for indoor locations, ensuring adequate ventilation in all spaces,
- ✓ frequent handwashing and regular cleaning and disinfection,
- ✓ training workers on these and other elements of the COVID-19 prevention program.

On November 30, 2020, the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) implemented mandatory [emergency temporary standards](#) (ETS) to prevent worker exposures to COVID-19 in most workplaces where workers are not covered by Cal/OSHA's [Aerosol Transmissible Diseases standard](#). Under the ETS, employers have obligations including to develop and implement policies and procedures to prevent disease transmission in the workplace; to identify new disease cases if they occur; and, when they are identified, to intervene quickly and work with public health authorities to halt the spread of the virus. The ETS covers topics that are also addressed by this guidance. The guidance has been updated to clarify any instances where public health guidance imposes additional *requirements* beyond those mandated by the ETS and to highlight additional recommended practices for public health purposes beyond those mandated by the ETS.

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Purpose

This document provides guidance for outdoor seated live events and entertainment with audiences to support a safe, clean environment for workers, volunteers, and customers/patrons. Performances that take place in other venues (such as restaurants, bars, or houses of worship) must also follow the applicable sector guidance. Businesses must identify and monitor the County Risk Level for the county the business is operating in and make required adjustments to their operations. For the most updated information on county status, visit [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#). Please note that local health departments can have more restrictive criteria and different closures. Find [your county's local information](#).

- **Across all Tiers:** All venues are permitted to open for broadcast or streaming without a live audience. For any performance with a live audience, venues must follow the modifications outlined in this guidance, including:
 - Use of face coverings is mandatory throughout the venue in all settings indoor and outdoor, unless actively eating and/or drinking. Guests who do not comply should be removed from the facility immediately. Allow for exemptions identified in the CDPH Face Covering Guidance.
 - Performers and workers in the performance sector who cannot feasibly perform or work with a face covering are not required to wear a face covering during the time period in which such tasks are actually being performed on the condition that (1) the unmasked performer or worker is at least six feet away from all other persons, or (2) all unmasked performers or workers and any workers who come into contact with those people are routinely tested at least twice weekly for COVID-19 (PCR or antigen are permissible diagnosis tests for routine testing of performers or workers).
 - Athletes are subject to the following face covering requirements:
 - **Professional athletes** who derive a living from competing in a sport or compete in a sport as representatives of the United States (e.g. Olympic and Paralympic Games) and who are subject to a labor/management agreements between their union representatives and the relevant professional governing organization are subject to the applicable face covering requirements of those agreements.
 - **Collegiate athletes** are subject to the specific masking requirements of the [Institutions of Higher Education Guidance](#).
 - **All other athletes** who are not subject to a labor/management agreement - including professional, semi-professional, and recreational athletes - must follow the specific masking requirements in the [CDPH Youth and Adults Sports Guidance](#)
 - Performers and workers in the performance sector may rehearse indoors if they can wear face coverings and maintain physical distancing at all times, or if they cannot reasonably wear face coverings at all times but comply with the routine testing requirement above. Rehearsal outdoors is strongly encouraged.
 - Athletes, artists and workers must follow all the protocols required by any labor/management agreements, the Higher Education guidance, or the Youth

and Adult Recreational Sports guidance, as applicable.

- Venue operators must allow for at least two hours between events to prevent mixing across attendees.
- Assigned seating is required to permit physical distancing of at least 6 feet between people from different households.
- Limit customer groups to three household units.
- Audience seating locations must be fixed or marked, with readily identifiable signs to indicate by section, row, and seat (assigned seating). Assigned seats must clearly define space for individuals with appropriate space per person (no blanket reservations or group areas), and non-permanent seating arrangements must not be altered by spectators.
- Discourage audience from engaging in yelling, singing, chanting, booing, use of noise makers that require the exhalation of air (e.g. vuvuzelas), and other similar practices that may increase the likelihood of transmission from contaminated exhaled droplets and aerosols.
- Entry and exit should be tightly controlled to prevent concentrations of people on concourses and aisles.
- Shared musical instruments must be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with manufacturer's instructions between users. Musicians must play their own instrument whenever possible (e.g., discontinue single-piano duets).
- Outdoor food and drink concessions are allowed so long as physical distancing is maintained at all times. Indoor concessions must be closed unless otherwise permitted in Orange and Yellow Tiers.

For **outdoor venues that have assigned seating** (e.g. sporting events, live theater performances) refer to the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy to determine the county's current tier](#). The following attendance & capacity limits shall apply:

- **Purple – Widespread – Tier 1:** Venues can open for performances or events with live audiences (see note below on permissible outdoor venues) and must follow the modifications in this guidance, including:
 - Attendance Limitations:
 - Venues may permit attendance up to 100 people, irrespective of size of venue, to the extent they can comply with the 6 feet physical distancing requirement.
 - Regional spectators only, within 120 miles. Information will be prominently placed on all communications, including the Reservation and Ticketing systems, to ensure guests are aware of Reservation and Ticketing Requirements. At the time a guest purchases tickets, the operator must obtain an attestation that the guest's block of seat reservations contains no more than one household and that the guest, and all members of the guest's party are travelling no greater than 120 miles to attend.
 - Venues are not permitted to sell tickets on the day of the event or at the door.

- Advanced ticket reservations only.
- **Red – Substantial – Tier 2:** Venues can open for performances or events with live audiences (see note below on permissible outdoor venues) and must follow the modifications in this guidance, including:
 - Attendance Limitations:
 - Venues must limit attendance to maximum of 20% capacity (based on the design/operating capacity or fire department occupant limit). Visitors in suites count toward this capacity limit.
 - Each suite is limited to 25% occupancy with no more than 3 households physically distanced within each suite, or six people from the same household.
 - In-state spectators only. Information will be prominently placed on all communications, including the Reservation and Ticketing systems, to ensure guests are aware of Reservation and Ticketing Requirements. At the time a guest purchases tickets, the operator must obtain an attestation that the guest's block of seat reservations contains no more than one household and that the guest, and all members of the guest's party will be in-state visitors.
 - Employers who have employees working at Live Outdoor Events, must develop a worker COVID-19 testing program for weekly optional testing of all workers who may encounter other workers, support staff, or performers. PCR or antigen are permissible diagnosis tests for workers/performers where the interval of between tests is no greater than seven days. For workers/performers returning to work where the interval between a prior test has been greater than seven days after receiving a prior test, only a PCR test is permissible.
 - Performers, athletes and workers participating in routine weekly testing are NOT counted toward any occupancy capacity limit. All performers, athletes and workers not participating in a routine weekly testing program shall count toward any occupancy limit.
 - Advanced ticket reservations only.
- **Orange – Moderate – Tier 3:** Venues can open for performances or events with live audiences (see note below on permissible outdoor venues) and must follow the modifications in this guidance, including:
 - Attendance Limitations:
 - Venues must limit attendance to maximum of 33% capacity (based on the design/operating capacity or fire department occupant limit). Visitors in suites count toward this capacity limit.
 - Each suite is limited to 25% occupancy with no more than 3 households physically distanced within each suite, or six people from the same household.
 - Venues may increase attendance capacity to 67% if all guests show a negative test result within the 72 hours prior to attendance or show proof of full vaccination.
 - In-state spectators only. Information will be prominently placed on all communications, including the Reservation and Ticketing systems, to ensure

guests are aware of Reservation and Ticketing Requirements. At the time a guest purchases tickets, the operator must obtain an attestation that the guest's block of seat reservations contains no more than one household and that the guest, and all members of the guest's party will be in-state visitors.

- Employers who have employees working at Live Outdoor Events, must develop a worker COVID-19 testing program for weekly optional testing of all regular workers who may encounter other workers, support staff, or performers. PCR or antigen are permissible diagnosis tests for workers/performers where the interval of between tests is no greater than seven days. For workers/performers returning to work where the interval between a prior test has been greater than seven days after receiving a prior test, only a PCR test is permissible.
 - Performers, athletes and workers participating in routine weekly testing are NOT counted toward any occupancy capacity limit. All performers, athletes and workers not participating in a routine weekly testing program shall count toward any occupancy limit.
- Advanced ticket reservations only.
- Indoor concessions and concourse sales must be closed, except for designated seated dining areas that operate at no greater than 25% of capacity.
- **Yellow – Minimal – Tier 4:** Venues can open for performances or events with live audiences (see note below on permissible outdoor venues) and must follow the modifications in this guidance, including:
 - Attendance Limitations
 - Venues must limit attendance to maximum of 67% capacity (based on the design/operating capacity or fire department occupant limit). Visitors in suites count toward this capacity limit.
 - Each suite is limited to 25% occupancy with no more than 3 households physically distanced within each suite, or six people from the same household.
 - Performers, athletes and workers participating in a routine weekly testing are NOT counted toward any occupancy capacity limit. All performers, athletes and workers not participating in a routine weekly testing program shall count toward any occupancy limit
 - In-state spectators only. At the time a guest purchases tickets, the operator must obtain an attestation that the guest's block of seat reservations contains no more than one household and that the guest, and all members of the guest's party will be in-state visitors.
 - Advanced ticket reservations only.
 - Indoor concessions and concourse sales must be closed, except for designated seated dining areas that operate at no greater than 50% of capacity.

Permissible Outdoor Venues: For the purposes of this guidance, a permissible outdoor

venue for live audience performances shall require:

- A permanent and fixed facility, focused around a stage round, field court, or other central area designed primarily for viewing entertainment or athletics by an audience OR a defined and demarcated outdoor area. Seat assignments must be marked clearly with at least 6 feet of distance between household groups and seats can be reserved.
- The facility shall either be open to the sky with no roof or have at least 50% of the total perimeter open, meaning there are no walls, doors, windows, dividers, or other physical barriers that restrict air flow, whether open or closed. There must be sufficient natural ventilation and air circulation to dilute and disperse concentrations of aerosols effectively without the support of mechanical systems.
- The facility shall be designed in a way that provides operators the ability to control fully the flow, ingress, and egress of all visitors, and to separate performers, artists, and workers from the general audience.
- There must be permanent or added barriers to create at least 12 feet between space occupied by audience members and the focal point (stage or round).
- Refer to CDPH guidance on temporary structures for outdoor business operations for additional information (see [CDPH guidance](#))

Please note that local health departments can have more restrictive criteria and different closures. Find [your county's local information](#).

NOTE: This guidance is not intended for convention-style events or general admission venues/activities where the central activity allows or requires patrons to move around shared space.

NOTE: This guidance does not alter existing criteria that govern return to athletic training and competition without live audiences. In instances of training or competition without live audiences, professional athletes, coaching staff, medical staff, broadcasting staff and others at sporting facilities or events should refer to any COVID-19 protocols approved by local public health officers and agreed by labor and management, if applicable. Collegiate athletes are subject to the specific return to training and competition criteria of the [Institutions of Higher Education Guidance](#). All other athletes must follow the requirements in the [CDPH Youth and Adults Sports Guidance](#).

NOTE: Performance venues have a number of operational aspects and service offerings covered in other guidance and which are available on the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy website](#). Performance groups and venues must review this guidance to apply the appropriate protocols to all aspects of operations, unless otherwise required in this document, including:

- Restaurants ([Restaurant guidance](#))
- Bars (see [Bars guidance](#))
- Gift shops and retail operations (see [Retail guidance](#))
- Hotels and lodging (see [Hotels, Lodging, and Short-Term Rentals guidance](#))

- Movie theaters and drive-in movie theaters ([Movie Theaters guidance](#))
- Trams, shuttles, and other transit ([Public and Private Passenger Carriers, Transit, and Intercity Passenger Rail guidance](#)) Limit shuttle service whenever possible and in accordance with obligations to individuals with disabilities.
- Maintenance and custodial work services (see [Limited Services guidance](#))
- Temporary structures for outdoor business operations (see [CDPH guidance](#))

The guidance is not intended to revoke or repeal any worker rights, either statutory, regulatory or collectively bargained, and is not exhaustive, as it does not include county health orders, nor is it a substitute for any or newly established safety and health-related regulatory requirements such as those of Cal/OSHA, including new [Emergency Temporary Standards](#) that went into effect on November 30, 2020. ¹ Stay current on changes to public health guidance and state/local orders, as the COVID-19 situation continues. Cal/OSHA has more safety and health guidance on their [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Guidance](#) and Resources webpage. CDC has additional guidance [for businesses and employers](#) and for [food and grocery retailers](#).



Required Use of Face Coverings

Consult the [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\) Guidance on the Use of Face Coverings](#), which mandates the use of face coverings for both members of the public and employees in all public and workplace settings outside the home. Complete details, including all requirements and exemptions to these rules, can be found in the guidance, which should be checked periodically for updates. Additionally, CDPH provides [advice](#) on effective practices regarding face covering.



Workplace COVID-19 Prevention Program

As required by the Cal/OSHA [COVID-19 prevention standards](#), employers must establish, implement and maintain a written COVID-19 Prevention Program that is available to employees and their authorized representatives (i.e., union). Complete details, including all requirements and exemptions to these rules, templates for model COVID-19 Prevention Programs, and Frequently Asked Questions can be found at the following [link](#). All references and guidance should be checked periodically for updates.



Outbreak and Testing

Employers are also required to comply with Cal/OSHA's regulations for [outbreaks](#) and [major outbreaks](#), including any [relevant testing requirements for employees and reporting requirements](#). They should review [FAQs on Outbreaks](#) for more considerations and explanation of the regulations.

Consult [CDPH's Responding to COVID-19 at the Workplace](#) for specific definitions on what constitutes an outbreak and all required reporting requirements.



Individual Control Measures and Screening

The Cal/OSHA ETS requires employers to develop and implement a process for screening employees for and responding to employees with COVID-19 symptoms, as well as to address several other individual control measures through implementation of the required components of the COVID-19 Prevention Program. See the linked materials for details on those requirements.

In addition to the requirements under the ETS, employers must:

- Take reasonable measures, including public address announcements, posting signage in strategic and highly-visible locations, and in reservation confirmations, to remind the public and workers that they must use face coverings whenever not eating or drinking (unless exempted per the ETS or [CDPH Face Coverings Guidance](#)), practice physical distancing, not touch their face, frequently wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and use hand sanitizer.
- CDPH recommends the following additional measures to further mitigate risk of transmission or other health risks:
 - Encourage guests or customers who are sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 to stay home.
 - Provide resources to promote personal hygiene. This will include tissues, no-touch trash cans, hand soap, adequate time for handwashing, alcohol-based hand sanitizers, and disposable towels.
 - Consider where disposable gloves may be a helpful supplement to handwashing or use of hand sanitizer, such as when handling commonly touched items.



Ventilation

- All businesses permitted to operate indoors must follow the CDPH and Cal/OSHA interim [guidance for ventilation, filtration, and air quality](#) to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in indoor settings. This guidance also addresses ventilation requirements contained in the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 ETS.
- Additional detailed guidance on ventilation is also available from the [CDC](#).



Cleaning, and Disinfecting Protocols

- Employers must implement cleaning and disinfecting procedures, as defined within the Cal/OSHA [COVID-19 ETS](#). Cleaning and disinfecting must be done in a manner that does not create a hazard to workers.
- CDPH guidance does not impose any additional requirements beyond those under the ETS.
- CDPH recommends the following additional measures to further mitigate risk of transmission or other health risks:
 - To minimize the risk of [Legionnaires' disease](#) and other diseases associated with water, take steps to ensure that all water systems and features (e.g., drinking fountains, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown.
 - Provide time for workers to implement cleaning practices during their shift. Assign cleaning assignments during working hours as part of the employee's job duties. Procure options for third-party cleaning companies to assist with the increased cleaning demand, as needed.
 - Install hands-free devices, if possible, including motion sensor lights, contactless payment systems, automatic soap and paper towel dispensers, and timecard systems.
 - Encourage the use of debit or credit cards by customers, for example, through signage.
 - When choosing disinfecting chemicals, use products approved for use against COVID-19 on the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)-approved](#) list and follow product instructions. Choose disinfectants that are less likely to trigger asthma by using products on EPA's "N" list that contain hydrogen peroxide (no stronger than 3%) or ethanol (ethyl alcohol) and that do not contain peroxyacetic acid or peracetic acid. Avoid disinfectant products on the "N" list that contain asthmagens, such as bleach (sodium hypochlorite) or quaternary ammonium compounds (e.g., benzalkonium chloride). Follow the [asthma-safer cleaning methods](#) recommended by the California Department of Public Health and ensure proper ventilation.



Physical Distancing Guidelines

- Physical distancing alone is insufficient to prevent transmission of COVID-19.
- Employers must implement protocols and procedures regarding physical distancing of at least six feet between workers and other persons, as defined within the Cal/OSHA [COVID-19 Prevention ETS](#). More details and examples can be found in [Cal/OSHA's FAQs](#).
- In addition to any mandatory physical distancing requirements in this guidance, CDPH recommends the following additional measures to further mitigate risk of transmission or other health risks:
 - Avoid in-person meetings and, if they are necessary, adjust them to ensure physical distancing and use smaller individual meetings at facilities to maintain physical distancing guidelines.
 - Provide a single, clearly designated entrance and separate exit to help maintain physical distancing where possible.
 - Install transfer-aiding materials, such as shelving and bulletin boards, to reduce person-to-person hand-offs where possible. Wherever possible, use contactless signatures for deliveries.
 - Where possible, create outdoor break areas with shade coverings and seating arrangements that ensures physical distancing.



Additional Recommendations for Venues with Live Audiences



Recommendations for Entry and Security

- Protect ticketing offices with impermeable barriers, like Plexiglas. Instruct guests where to queue to maintain a minimum of six feet of physical distance.
- Particular attention should be given to staggered exiting of venues at the conclusion of an event. Establish directional entry and exit into venues whenever possible.
- Workers checking bags should modify activities to minimize directly touching guest items. This could include using styluses or other instruments to search bags, asking guests to open bags and move contents, etc. Where practices might cause direct contact with patrons or their items, workers should immediately sanitize hands or wear disposable gloves and change between each guest search.

- In order to avoid touching attendees' personal items, operators should consider enforcing a small clear bag policy and ask guests to open their own bags for inspection. Consider necessary exceptions for medical and personal hygiene products.
- Consider the use of walk-through metal detectors rather than hand wand metal detectors to allow workers to maintain at least six feet of physical distance from patrons.
- Install and use touchless ticket scanners whenever possible. Ask patrons to scan tickets themselves rather than passing digital electronic devices or paper tickets back and forth between workers and patrons.
- Discontinue coat check and other amenities that require workers to unnecessarily touch guest items and increase the risk of contact of contaminated items from different households.
- Dedicate ushers during breaks and intermissions to ensure orderly entry and exit from and into venue areas. Use ushers to preserve appropriate space in queuing areas and help customers understand where lines begin as additional space may make it difficult to see where to stand.
- Venues that offer food and drink concessions should encourage customers to order online or over the phone, whenever possible.
- Reconfigure merchandise and other retail sales booths and areas to create physical distance between workers and patrons. Encourage pre-ordering, contactless payment, and other systems that minimize the amount of time patrons spend in retail areas. Discontinue allowing patrons to try on merchandise.



Additional Recommendations for Production Departments



Recommendations for Performers

- Use precautions when performing in large groups or ensembles and evaluate the necessity of such activity on a case-by-case basis. Background players, stand-ins, and other non-essential performers on set should not linger in crowded holding areas unnecessarily. Holding/offstage areas should be sufficiently large to ensure adequate spacing between performers, backstage workers, etc.
- Performing groups should consider modifications to rehearsals where face coverings cannot be worn, that break physical distances, require performers to touch their own or others' faces, etc.

- Use microphones for performances to the maximum extent feasible so that performers can limit voice projections, which cause more particles, aerosols, and droplets to be released and travel farther.
- Performers that are minors should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Children should be given special instruction and guidance on the use of any provided protective equipment and safety protocols.



Recommendations for Musical Performers

- Performers should empty water keys onto disposable or paper towels whenever possible and turn away from others when emptying to avoid fluid contamination. Musicians should discard their own used towels and wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer as described in this guidance after disposal. If musicians empty water keys onto non-disposable towels, the towels must be clean when brought to performance or practice, removed by the musician and placed into a sealed container away from others for laundering, and the musician must wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer.
- Perform instrument cleaning, including wiping down and blowing through, at home and away from others before and after practice.
- Do not share instruments whenever possible. Consider discontinuing assistance from musician assistants, such as page-turners, or others that cannot maintain at least six feet of distance.
- Increase distancing between people who sing or chant and others, or between wind instrument performers and others to more than six feet, when outdoors and not wearing face coverings. Consider use of barriers to add further separation in these cases.
- Wind instrument performers should use additional modifications as appropriate, such as devices to capture aerosols or to redirect air emitted from the instrument.



Recommendations for Rehearsals

- Performances and/or practices where there is increased likelihood for transmission from lack of face covering use or contaminated exhaled aerosols (such as singing, chanting, brass and woodwind playing, etc.) should rehearse outdoors, if possible. Performers must rehearse and perform with their small group to the greatest extent feasible.
- When workers cannot wear face coverings as part of their rehearsal (e.g.

opera singers, woodwind musicians, etc.), operators must modify rehearsal activities, including maintaining strict small groups, implementing at least weekly testing of participants during rehearsal as well as performance season, limiting the amount of time and the number of workers without face coverings, maintaining physical distance between those without face coverings and others to **at least** six feet, installing impermeable barriers between people, ensuring proper ventilation, etc.

- Use precautions when performing in large groups or ensembles. If a large group is required for the performance, minimize the time the full group is in proximity with each other (e.g. rehearsing in sub-groups).



Recommendations for Travel

- Production should evaluate whether travel is essential and should limit the number of workers asked to travel. Check the current [CDPH Travel Advisory](#) in effect and review the [CDC guidelines on air travel](#) and encourage all traveling personnel to do the same.
- Develop a detailed process and plan for travel, which should include:
 - Implementing small travel groups.
 - Ensuring facilities in proximity of venues can support necessary lodging and dining demands and any potential medical needs.
 - Reviewing the local, state, and [CDC Travel Recommendations by Country](#) and avoiding all destinations, both domestic and international, where there is widespread ongoing transmission.
 - Follow relevant local or state guidance regarding self-quarantine upon return from areas of higher transmission.
- Consider lodging workers in apartments instead of hotel rooms where they might interact with other guests or hotel staff.
- Where possible, workers should drive separately in their own vehicles, unless part of the same traveling small groups.
- If a large number of workers are in hotels, consider bus transport. If using shared vehicles, minimize the number per vehicle to support physical distancing and require passengers to wear face coverings.



Recommendations for Casting and Auditions

- Consider remote casting sessions and callbacks with live broadcast capabilities. Encourage the submission of self-tapes instead of in-person auditions where feasible.
- Digitally distribute scripts, music, etc. as opposed to handing out sheets of paper, in accordance with confidentiality requirements.
- Schedule any in-person auditions and callbacks with staggered appointments to accommodate physical distancing. Ask those auditioning in person to arrive at casting and audition locations at the assigned time.
- Encourage people to wait in their cars, not in the waiting area of the casting facility. Consider utilizing app technology that checks people in for their appointment and sends a text when the audition will begin.
- Consider options to simulate handling of props to minimize items transferred between individuals.
- Consider ensuring back-up talent selection and availability in the case of illness.



Recommendations for Construction Mills and Set Design

- Construction mill and set design employers should refer to additional guidance on the Construction and Manufacturing industries available on the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy website](#).
- Consider whether the set design crew can operate separately from production, including fully dressing locations prior to performances without interaction with other workers.
- Develop stage layouts to limit the number of staff and performers on site and maximize the physical distance between performers.
- Additional cleaning and disinfection practices should be developed for key props, furniture, or other set dressing which has repeated and regular exposure with workers. Where possible, limit the number of people who have contact with key props, e.g. ensure such props are only handled by a designated crew member or relevant cast.



Recommendations for Scenery, Sound, Props, Rigging, Special Effects, and Lighting

- Consider options to limit the number of staff needed in back-of-house production departments and/or identify ways they can complete tasks separately from each other. For example, where feasible, the lighting department should be allowed to work alone on set until the lighting is complete before other departments undertake their tasks.
- Evaluate the increased risk from standard working processes involving close contact (heavy lifting, working in confined spaces such as scissor lifts, lighting grids, moving large lamps, textile tying, etc.) and modify those work processes, where possible, and ensure workers have access to the proper protective equipment.
- Limit the shared use of production items to a single worker or a function team (e.g. sound equipment should be handled by a designated person or team).
- Encourage the use of microphones to decrease voice projection.
- Consider having sound crew pre-wire costumes, when practical and feasible, to minimize contact between personnel.



Recommendations for Costume and Wardrobe

- Consider options that allow performers to arrive in their own wardrobe. Where feasible, encourage background performers to also wear clothes from their own from home. Separate dressing areas to permit physical distancing if this is not possible.
- Ensure costume dressing and quick-change protocols are staggered and supervised by wardrobe attendants.
- Each cast member's costume and wardrobe supplies should be kept in separate, labeled plastic bags.



Recommendations for Hair and Makeup

- Hair and make-up crew members should refer to additional guidance on hair salons and other personal care services on the [Industry Guidance to Reduce Risk website](#).

- Hair extensions or wigs should be thoroughly cleaned according to the manufacturer's directions after each use.
- Makeup application tools and supplies should be purchased per performer and used only on that individual. These supplies should be kept in individual cast bags.
- Mix foundation, powders, lipstick, and other makeup items on a disposable palette for each individual. Use disposable, single-use applicators for each person (e.g. mascara wands, lip brushes, eyeliner sticks, cotton swabs, powder puffs, etc.).
- Performers should apply their own minor touch-ups, where possible, to avoid additional contact. Performers should also remove their own makeup to limit contact at the end of the day.

¹Additional requirements must be considered for vulnerable populations. Employers must comply with all [Cal/OSHA](#) standards and be prepared to adhere to its guidance as well as guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) and the [California Department of Public Health \(CDPH\)](#). Additionally, employers must be prepared to alter their operations as those guidelines change.

