

# Museums

## COVID-19 Requirements

### Summary of March 19, 2021 changes:

- New Phase 3 requirements detailed.

### Summary of January 2021 changes:

- New Phase 1 and Phase 2 requirements detailed.
- Safety and health requirements updated to current language at the end of the document.

Museums are permitted to operate, provided all requirements in this document are met. The museum must adopt a written procedure for operation that is at least as strict as the procedures below and complies with all safety and health requirements.

### Phase 1

- Private rentals/tours for individual households of no more than 6 people permitted maximum for the entire facility. General admission prohibited.
- No events allowed.

### Phase 2

- Museums may operate exhibit and galleries; total capacity is limited to 25 percent. Individual rooms shall be monitored periodically to ensure they are not above 25 percent capacity.

### Phase 3

- For museums less than 100,00 square feet, the maximum number of individuals is 400 or 50% of capacity, whichever is less. For museums larger than 100,000 square feet, the maximum number of individuals is 600 or 50% of capacity, whichever is less.
- Individual rooms shall be monitored periodically to ensure they are not above 50 percent capacity.

### All Phases:

- Mask use required at all times.
- Restaurants and shops must adhere to required guidelines for food service and retail for the phase that their respective region is in.
- Utilize on-line or phone reservation systems with timed ticketing if possible to allow pre-pay and to limit interactions. In the absence of time ticketing use staggered entry to control capacity limits.
- Install signage to discourage group congregation, or to limit numbers of people in a certain area.

## Safety and Health Requirements

*Stay home when sick or if a close contact of someone with COVID-19*

Staff, volunteers and visitors must stay home if they feel unwell, show any signs of COVID-19, or are a close contact of a confirmed case. Screening should consider [symptoms listed by the CDC](#). Any person with symptoms of COVID-19 or who is a close contact of someone with confirmed COVID-19 should not be allowed to enter the facility and should contact his or her primary care provider or other appropriate

health-care professional and follow DOH and local public health isolation and quarantine guidance. People with underlying health conditions should consult with their medical provider regarding participation in high risk activities.

### *Masks*

Masks required for staff, volunteers and visitors at all times.

### *Physical Distance*

Physical distance of 6 feet must be maintained between staff and visitors and visitors and each other at all times.

### *Hygiene*

Staff, volunteers and visitors to practice good hygiene including washing their hands frequently and covering their sneezes and coughs. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after practice, especially after touching shared objects or blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains 60-95% alcohol content. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they are dry.

Provide handwashing or hand sanitizing stations for staff, volunteers and visitors.

### *Cleaning*

Clean high touch surfaces and disinfect shared equipment before and after each use. Ensure restrooms are cleaned and disinfected regularly. Current CDC guidance for cleaning and disinfection for COVID-19 states that disinfectants should be registered by the EPA for use against the COVID-19. Find the current list here: [List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\)](#). Disinfectants based on hydrogen peroxide or alcohol are safer than harsher chemicals. The University of Washington has a [handout with options for safer cleaning and disinfecting products that work well against COVID-19](#).

### *Ventilation*

Ventilation is important to have good indoor air quality. Ensure that ventilation systems operate properly. Increase air circulation and ventilation as much as possible by opening windows and doors. Offer more outside time, open windows often and adjust mechanical ventilation systems to bring in as much outside air as possible. Increase filters to MERV 13 if the HVAC can accommodate. Use of fans for cooling is acceptable. In indoor spaces, fans should only be used when windows or doors are open to the outdoors in order to circulate indoor and outdoor air. They should blow away from people.

### *Employees*

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](#).