

In an effort to provide you relevant and timely information and keep you up to date during the coronavirus outbreak, the Economic Development Office will be sending a weekly bulletin. We will focus on information regarding business resources and support from various government agencies.

UPdates for June 5, 2020

Did You Check Your Mail?

By now you should have received this postcard in the mail from the City of University Place. It invites you to participate in a Business Assessment Survey to get your input on how you believe CARES funds from the State of Washington should be distributed in U.P.



The online survey will only take a few minutes to complete. We are hoping for full participation from all our businesses, especially since this is your opportunity to tell us what you need and how these funds might help your recovery plans.

Pierce County Moves to Phase 2 of Reopening

Having met key metrics, Pierce County was granted approval today by Gov. Jay Inslee to proceed to Phase 2 for safe reopening, which allows retailers to resume in-store purchases and restaurants to reopen with 50 percent capacity and tables that accommodate no more than five diners. Real estate offices, hair and nail salons, and barbers may also reopen, provided patrons wear masks and capacity remains at 50 percent. New construction projects across Pierce County may also resume work.

In addition, outdoor recreation (camping, beaches, etc.) is also allowed, provided it involves five or fewer people outside your household.

Although Phase 2 signals the next step in the State's COVID-19 reopening plan, individuals should still continue to follow these basic practices:

 Engage in physical distancing, staying at least six feet away from other people

- Wear cloth face coverings in public places when not eating or drinking (except for those younger than 2 years of age or those who have trouble breathing or would be unable to remove the cover without assistance)
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water (use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available) and avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Disinfect surfaces and objects regularly
- Cover coughs and sneezes and avoid others who are sick
- Stay home if sick

Employers must also follow these requirements as part of the Governor's phased reopening:

- Beginning June 8, all employees will be required to wear a cloth facial covering, except if working alone in an office or if there is no in-person interaction. Those with communication limitations or disabilities that make wearing a facial covering inappropriate are also exempt.
- Employers must provide cloth facial coverings to employees unless their exposure dictates a higher level of protection. Employees can wear their own facial coverings provided they meet minimum requirements.
- Post a sign strongly encouraging customers to wear cloth facial coverings, and prominently display it at the entrance to the business so that it is immediately noticeable to all customers entering the store.
- Maintain minimum six-foot separation between all employees (and customers) in all interactions at all times. When strict physical distancing is not feasible for a specific task, other prevention measures are required, such as use of barriers, minimizing staff or customers in narrow or enclosed areas, and staggering breaks and work shift starts.
- Ensure frequent and adequate hand washing with adequate maintenance of supplies. Use disposable gloves where safe and applicable to prevent virus transmission on tools or other items that are shared.
- Establish a schedule of frequent cleaning and sanitizing with a particular emphasis on commonly touched surfaces.
- Screen employees for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 at the start of their shift. Make sure sick employees stay home or immediately go home if they feel or appear sick. Cordon off any areas where an employee with probable or confirmed COVID-19 illness worked, touched surfaces, etc. until the area and equipment is cleaned and sanitized per CDC guidelines.

For a complete review of all the requirements, visit the Governor's **Safe Start website**.

Continue to Watch the City's COVID-19 Business Support Page

Don't forget to check out the Economic Development Department's special COVID-19 Business Support page on the City of University Place website. We update it regularly with information we receive so that it can serve as a repository of critical information and resources for local businesses.

City of University Place Economic Development Department

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