

Department of Licensing

Q&A for Licensees – COVID-19 Restrictions

Questions and Answers

How long are the restrictions in place?

From midnight on November 16 through December 14, 2020.

What are the changes for specific businesses?

- **Professional Services:** A professional service is generally a business that has an office where the business provides services to clients. Below are examples of businesses DOL licenses that could be considered “professional services:”

- [Appraisal management companies](#)
- [Appraisers](#)
- [Architects](#)
- [Auctioneers](#)
- [Bail bonds](#)
- [Camping resorts](#)
- [Collection agencies](#)
- [Court reporters](#)
- [Employment agencies](#)
- [Employment directory services](#)
- [Geologists](#)
- [Home inspectors](#)
- [Landscape architects](#)
- [Notaries public](#)
- [Private investigators](#)
- [Security guards](#)
- [Sellers of travel](#)
- [Telephone solicitors](#)
- [Timeshares](#)
- [Whitewater river outfitters](#)

Professional service employers must mandate that employees work from home when possible and close offices to the public, if possible. Any offices that remain open must limit occupancy to 25% of indoor occupancy limits.

Current professional services guidance document:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/COVID19Phase2PersonalServicesGuidance.pdf>

- **Personal Services:** Personal service providers include cosmetologists, hairstylists, barbers, estheticians, master estheticians, manicurists, nail salons, electrologists, permanent makeup artists, and tattoo artists. Personal services businesses are limited to 25% of indoor occupancy.

Current personal services guidance document:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/COVID19Phase2PersonalServicesGuidance.pdf>

- **Businesses that train and/or test:**
 - Some businesses DOL licenses fall under the [guidelines for “Higher Education and Critical Infrastructure Workforce Training.”](#) Examples are driver training schools and commercial driver training. The guidelines for these businesses have not changed, except as noted below if testing or training occur in a “miscellaneous venue.”

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- Some businesses DOL licenses provide testing and training for their industry. If the testing or training is held in a “miscellaneous venue:”
 - Only training and testing that cannot be performed remotely is allowed.
 - Occupancy in each meeting room is limited to 25% of indoor occupancy or 100 people, whichever is fewer.

Miscellaneous venues include convention/conference centers, designated meeting spaces in a hotel, events centers, fairgrounds, sporting arenas, nonprofit establishment, or a substantially similar venue.

- **Real Estate:** Open houses are prohibited.

Current real estate guidance document:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/COVID19%20Phase%202%20Real%20Est%20Guidance.pdf>

- **Funerals:** Ceremonies are limited to no more than 30 people. Indoor receptions, wakes, or similar gatherings are prohibited.

Current funeral guidance document:

<https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/COVID19%20Phase%202%20and%20Phase%203%20Wedding%20and%20Funeral%20Guidance.pdf>

How do I know what my occupancy limit is?

The percentages for capacity are based on the overall occupancy of the building, based on fire code. The percentage calculation is for guests and/or clients and does not include staff.

Occupancy limit signs are often posted in building assembly spaces. Occupancy may also be found on lease agreements, permits for tenant improvements, or on approved permit plans. If unable to locate the building/facility occupancy, contact your landlord or local city permitting office.

Do the restrictions depend on what phase my county is in?

No. The new restrictions apply to all counties, regardless of what phase the county is in.

Why are there new capacity limits?

Businesses like personal services already had capacity limits. The new limit is 25% of total indoor capacity.

Are the new restrictions dependent on what county my business is in?

No. The restrictions apply to all counties, regardless of what phase the county is in.