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Monroe, Washington Economic Development Newsletter for the Month of July, 2020

# Monroe **Business**

## SPECIAL COVID-19 UPDATE

### Safe Start Washington

#### Current Status for Snohomish County: Phase 2

On Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Gov. Jay Inslee and health secretary John Wiesman held a press conference to announce new actions aimed at preventing the runaway spread of COVID-19. Proposed updates to the Safe Start plan aims to reduce the risks of people gathering with others outside their household. Among the updates announced:

- Beginning July 30<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, bars will close for indoor service. Gaming areas such as pool table or video games must close. At restaurants, alcohol service will end at 10 p.m. Only people from the same household can sit together for indoor dining at restaurants, and capacity will be reduced to 50% and maximum table sizes of five people.
- Indoor fitness activities will be limited to no more than five individuals in Phase 2 counties. Fitness centers in Phase 3 counties are reduced to 25% capacity and no more than 10 individuals for group fitness classes.
- Beginning August 6, indoor wedding and funeral ceremonies are limited to 20% capacity or 30 people, whichever is less. Receptions are no longer allowed.
- Indoor family entertainment and recreation centers are closed until Phase 4. This includes bowling alleys, arcades, etc.
- Indoor card rooms are closed until Phase 4.
- Indoor movie theaters are allowed in Phase 3 at 25% occupancy.
- Beginning Saturday, the secretary's statewide face covering order will be expanded to include any shared spaces, such as hotel, condo or apartment hallways and elevators, dormitory spaces, etc.

For more detailed information on the updates to Safe Start Washington go to => [Governor Inslee Announces New Measures](#)

### Updated Guidance for Specific Industries

#### Guidance for "Personal Service" workers amended

Slight revisions have been made to [the Personal Services](#) workplace safety guidance to be followed by barbers, stylists, beauticians, and cosmetologists. The amended guidance lifts some requirements (access through front entrance, requirement of customer hand-washing before service, and requirement providing each customer with a new cape) and clarifies other requirements. While personal service providers may not be able to distance six feet from customers, booths and workstations should be appropriately spaced or be separated by physical barriers.

#### Guidance for Weddings and funerals amended

Under the new guidance, ceremonies will remain permitted, but receptions are prohibited. Ceremonies must adhere to current guidance; for all phases, maximum indoor occupancy is 20%, or up to 30 people, whichever is less, as long as social distancing can be observed.

The changes will take effect in two weeks, on Aug. 6, providing a grace period for weddings and funerals previously scheduled to take place or readjust their plans.

# WHEN WILL MONROE MOVE TO PHASE 3?

The recent numbers reported for Snohomish County show a rise in the rate of reported cases, a rise in the percentage of positive cases and a decrease in the number of available hospital beds. All indicators are moving AWAY from our target which makes moving into Phase 3 unlikely until the numbers improve. But business owners can be prepared for the next phase by learning what guidelines will be expected and getting ready to implement them when the announcement does finally comes.

## Phase 3 Business Reopening

- Timeline: To be determined (TBD)
- Allowable Business Re-Openings: [https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/SafeStartWA\\_4May20\\_1pm.pdf](https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/SafeStartWA_4May20_1pm.pdf)
- Business Activity Guidance: Gov. Jay Inslee released a [template for businesses in Phase 3](#) of the Washington “[Safe Start](#)” plan. Each business or entity operating in Phase 3 must develop a written safety plan outlining how its workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19. A business may fill out this template to fulfill the requirement or may develop its own safety plan. Businesses are still required to follow [the state’s industry-specific guidance](#), if issued for their specific industry.

You can track statistics for Snohomish County here => [Risk Assessment Dashboard](#)



## SNOHOMISH COUNTY RISK ASSESMENT AS OF July 23, 2020

	VALUE	GOAL	MEETING GOAL?
Rate per 100K of newly diagnosed cases during the prior two weeks	84.8	<25	No
Number of individuals tested for each new case during the prior week	17.6	>50	No
Percent of Individuals testing positive for COVID-19 during the past week	5.7%	<2%	No
percent of Licensed beds occupied by patients	80.0%	<80%	Yes
Percent of licensed beds occupied by COVID-19 patients	3.1%	<10%	Yes

For more about Safe Start Washington here => [Safe Start WA](#)

# ASSISTANCE UPDATE

¿Dónde puedo encontrar ayuda en Español?

WHERE CAN I FIND HELP?

Small Business Webinars Will Cover:

- COVID-19 related relief
- Other resources available
- Business Requirements

This [webinar series](#) reviews information specific to Washington small businesses. A panel of state and federal partners is present to respond to live Q&A regarding unemployment insurance, returning employees to the workplace, relief funding, workplace safety measures and other topics important to employers. The next English-language webinar will be held on [July 30 at 1:30 p.m.](#), and Spanish-language webinars will be held on [July 28 at 5:30 p.m. and July 30 at 8:30 a.m.](#)



Meet your Small Business Liaison Team by [downloading the Liaison contact List NOW!](#)

We are Washington states' **Small Business Liaison Team (SBLT)** and we're taking action to make it easier to do business in Washington State - our vision is to make Washington the best place to do business.

Formalized and expanded by order of the Governor in January of 2012 ([Executive Order 12-01](#)), the SBLT includes 27 agencies participating in subgroups that focus on outreach programs, soliciting ideas for regulatory improvement, and developing new business tools.

Talleres de Requerimientos Y Recursos para Negocios Pequeños

## IMPACTO DE COVID-19 – LO QUE NECESITAS SABER...SEMINARIO EN LÍNEA

La pandemia de COVID-19 nos ha llevado a tiempos sin precedentes, ha movilizado a los líderes estatales y federales a crear recursos para apoyar y empoderar a los dueños de pequeños negocios. Este seminario proporcionará información general de algunas de las respuestas estatales, recursos y otros impactos que afectan a las pequeñas empresas. Queremos que estén informados y aprendan de recursos adicionales que se ofrecen gratis para ayudarlos a tener éxito en su empresa.

Obtendrá información sobre:

- Las respuestas de las agencias estatales relacionado al COVID-19...
- Actualizaciones respecto al Programa de Protección del Pago (PPP) y los Préstamos por Daños Económicos (Economic Injury Disaster Loans, EIDL)...
- Pagos de desempleo, fraude de impostores, regreso al trabajo, rechazo al trabajo...
- Requisitos de tapabocas/mascarilla, pautas de seguridad alimentarios y mucho mas...

Inscripción sin costo. Regístrese ahora para los seminarios en julio usando este enlace:

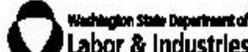
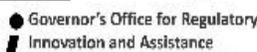
[empleadoresdewashington.eventbrite.com](https://empleadoresdewashington.eventbrite.com)

O llame: 360-515-6101



**martes, 28 de julio  
a las 5:30 p.m.**

**jueves, 30 de julio  
a las 8:30 a.m.**



Los seminarios web para pequeñas empresas revisan la ayuda, los recursos y los requisitos relacionados con COVID-19. Esta serie de seminarios web revisa información específica de las pequeñas empresas de Washington. Un panel de socios estatales y federales está presente para responder a las preguntas y respuestas en vivo sobre el seguro de desempleo, el regreso de los empleados al lugar de trabajo, la financiación de ayuda, las medidas de seguridad en el lugar de trabajo y otros temas importantes para los empleadores. El próximo seminario web en Inglés se llevará a cabo el 30 de Julio a las 1:30 p.m., y los seminarios web en español se realizarán el [28 de Julio a las 5:30 p.m. y el 30 de Julio a las 8:30 a.m.](#)

### Federal Sources:

#### Now Accepting New Applications for Economic Injury Disaster

Loans: On June 15, SBA resumed accepting new Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) applications from all eligible small businesses, private non-profits and U.S. agricultural businesses. To learn more about eligibility and apply, [click here](#).

If you have already applied via the streamlined application, please do not resubmit your application.

To learn more about the relief options available for your business, [click here](#).

Paycheck Protection Program has reopened The Paycheck Protection Program resumed accepting applications July 6, 2020, at 9:00 AM EDT in response to President signing the program's extension legislation. The new deadline to apply for a Paycheck Protection Program loan is August 8, 2020. If you wish to begin preparing your application, you can download a copy of the [PPP borrower application form \(revised June 24, 2020\)](#) to see the information that will be requested from you when you apply with a lender.

### State Sources:

**Working Washington Small Business Emergency Grant** – Several Monroe business applied for this WA State Dept. of Commerce Grant with an award going to 5 Monroe area businesses. See where the money went => [Recipients of Working Washington Small Business Emergency Grants](#) There is the possibility that a second round will be announced in the coming weeks. A separate email will be sent out if and when a second round is announced.

### County Sources:

The R3 grant program is closed and awardees have been notified of their grants. R3 grant applications that were not selected for an award in the first or second rounds will be retained for any additional rounds, if funding is identified. Applicants are not required to resubmit.

### Local Sources:

The Monroe CARES Grant applications have been reviewed by the Economic Development Advisory Board and recommendations have been sent to the City Council which will review at the next council meeting and announce awards by the end of the this week, July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Want to help? Join the Washington Mask Challenge.** The Lt. Governor's office has partnered with the United Ways of the Pacific Northwest and Serve Washington to organize a statewide homemade mask-making initiative to encourage the general public to make, wear, and donate cloth masks. Visit [www.wamaskchallenge.org](http://www.wamaskchallenge.org) for information.

As businesses begin to re-open, they must enact the necessary precautions to protect their employees and the public from infection. To assist businesses with adhering to these guidelines, the City of Everett has created the *Getting to Safe re-opening guide*. You can get a copy here => [Getting to Safe Guide for Businesses](#)

Have general questions about doing business during the time of COVID-19? The Business Response Center can answer your questions. Go to=> [General Business and Return to Work Inquiries](#).

Businesses are required to post signage recommending the public wear a face covering when inside. You can get and print signage that you can post at the entrance and throughout your business [here](#)=>

- [Please Wear a Face Covering.](#)
- [Any of Us Can Catch It, Any of Us Can Spread It. Please Wear A Mask](#)
- [Mask Up To Open Up Washington](#)  
[English](#)  
[Español](#)  
[中文](#)  
[ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt](#)
- [Spread Kindness Not COVID-19](#)
- [Please Wash Your Hands](#)
- [Please Keep Your Distance](#)

Remember, although you are not required to enforce the wearing of face masks by customers (You can require them in your place of business if you so wish.) businesses ARE REQUIRED to provide face masks to employees that engage the public. For more information on face coverings, such as the various types, how to make them and best practices for wearing and cleaning your mask, you can go to the => [CDC's page on face coverings](#).

If you would like to be removed from the distribution of the Monroe Economic Development Newsletter, please reply and change the subject line to "REMOVE"

# A WORD FROM THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

The Snohomish Health District would like to share some resources that we think you will find helpful as we work through the Safe Start reopening requirements together. The team at the Health District deeply appreciates the efforts businesses are making to keep employees and customers safe.

Snohomish County remains in Phase 2 of the statewide Safe Start plan at this time.

Materials are available for putting up at your business to notify or remind both customers and employees of the health requirements. You can find Posters for Download from Snohomish Health District online: <https://www.snohd.org/501/Posters-for-Download>

**Some new items that may be especially helpful include (see images at end of message):**

- [Please Wear a Cloth Face Cover \(Por Favor Use una Cubierta Facial de Tela\)](#)
- [Please Wash Your Hands](#)
- [Please Keep Your Distance \(floor stickers\)](#)

*We will have a limited supply of the "Please Wash Your Hands" stickers and "Please Wear a Cloth Face Cover" window clings available for your business if you are within Snohomish County. At this time, limit is 2 per business. If you would like a bathroom sticker or a window cling, please email [communications@snohd.org](mailto:communications@snohd.org).*

**Additional posters/signs:**

- [Please Protect One Another from COVID-19](#)
- [Please Protect Yourself and Coworkers from COVID-19](#)
- [Printable resources from CDC](#)

**Key guidance documents for reference:**

- [Safe Start business health and safety plan template](#) (This template is for use to build a health and safety plan during any phase. Please remember that Snohomish County is in Phase 2 of the Safe Start plan.)
- [Business Safe Opening Toolkit](#)
- [Overview of Statewide Face Covering Requirements](#)
- [Healthy Workplace: The Role of Employers in Effective Contact Tracing](#)
- [Industry specific guidance documents for phased reopening](#)

## GET READY.... THE 2020 MONROE BUSINESS SURVEY IS COMING SOON!

The Economic Development Advisory Board has reviewed the new 2020 Monroe Business Survey and the final draft is currently being developed. We expect to send out the survey no later than mid-August. This year it is particularly important that we get your feedback. The Economic Development Advisory Board is working on how best to roll it out for maximum participation. Do you have ideas on how we can increase participation? Let us know!

Do you have suggestions on how we can improve the newsletter? Your comments are appreciated.

### WANT TO OPT OUT OF THE NEWSLETTER?

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