

Benton-Franklin Health District
www.bfhd.wa.gov

Kennewick
7102 West Okanogan Place

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412 West Clark Street

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October 13, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Benton and Franklin Counties Approved to Move to Phase 2

Washington Governor Jay Inslee announced today that Benton and Franklin counties will move forward to Phase 2 of Washington's Safe Start Plan effective immediately. Benton and Franklin counties have been in Modified Phase 1 since July 2.

While our counties were already following Phase 2 guidance in many activities, this new distinction provides many more additions because of allowances added just last week by the state to Phases 2 and 3. It also provides a morale boost to our community for the dedication they have made to safety measures.

Special items of interest for Benton and Franklin counties at Phase 2 guidance:

- Recreation, sports and fitness expansions
- Libraries at 25% capacity (was curbside only)
- *Museums at 25% capacity
- *Movie theatres at 25% capacity
- Weddings/funerals expansions, including receptions
- Real estate expansions
- Restaurants, taverns, breweries, wineries and distilleries expansions
- Personal, professional and pet grooming services expansions to 50% capacity
- Religious and faith-based services expansion to 25% or 200 people, whichever is less
- *Higher education / workforce training
- *Agricultural events
- *Bowling for league practice and league play
- *Miscellaneous meeting venues at 30% (with events prohibited)
- *Motion picture industry
- *Overnight group summer camps
- *Outdoor cycling, running, cross country, skiing and non-motorized boating: races, tours and rides

**indicates new activity to Benton and Franklin counties (full list following release)*

See the entire list at www.bfhd.wa.gov/covid19 under the Open for Business Tab – Phase 2.

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“The residents of Benton and Franklin counties have substantially lowered the peak disease activity we saw in July of this year,” said Dr. Amy Person, health officer with Benton-Franklin Health District. “We have continued to advocate on behalf of our residents to expand our activities as we monitor our disease burden and hospital readiness,” she continued. “The community has demonstrated our counties can open activities safely and it’s great news to see the recognition for their efforts.”

Benton-Franklin Health District urges residents to continue exercising caution when engaging in activities. Maintain six feet of physical distance with non-household members, wear face coverings in public, avoid gatherings with more than a few people, and wash or sanitizing hands frequently.

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Activity Type	Activities Allowed
	<p>*** All activities allowed in Essential and Phase 1 plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance at high risk level of >75 cases / 100K / 14 days No tournaments or crowds Outdoor recreation at Phase 2 Guidance (camping and beaches where open) with 5 or fewer people outside the household Golf at Phase 2 Guidance Indoor fitness and training with 300 ft. between visitors Large facilities >12,000 sq. ft. = occupancy <25%
Recreation, sports and fitness	
Museums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance 25% capacity One way traffic
Libraries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance Allowed for some activities at 25% capacity Provide distance markers Avoid in-person check-in/out if feasible
Movie Theaters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Phase 2 Guidance 25% capacity
Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more than 5 people outside your household per week
Weddings/Funerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Phase 2 Guidance Up to 25% capacity or 30 people, whichever is less, indoors or outdoors - excluding vendors and staff 6 ft. physical distancing required with anyone outside your household Face coverings required indoors and outdoors Choirs prohibited Soloists with masking Weddings: dancing prohibited except couple's first dance and parent dances Receptions prohibited in Phase 2
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential travel and travel for activities allowed up to Phase 2

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel to counties in other phases to participate in non-essential activities not allowed (i.e. sports tournaments, large group events, dining)
Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real estate at Phase 2 Guidance. Open houses permitted at 5 individuals at one time, in-person meetings prohibited except when necessary to sign documents, in-person activities (viewings, walkthroughs, etc.) at less than 5 people. Photography with appointments required, outdoors as much as possible, one client in-studio at any given time, maintain social distancing and no touch services Pet grooming at less than 50% In-home domestic services Professional services/office-based businesses (telework remains strongly encouraged) at less than 50% Personal services less than 50% (hair and nail salons, barbers, tattoo, etc.)
Restaurants/*Bars (taverns, breweries, wineries, distilleries)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Phase 2 Guidance Open at 50% capacity indoors and outdoors Table sizes no larger than 6, regardless of household Alcohol service, delivery, consumption ends at 11 p.m. No bar seating allowed No indoor seating at *bars unless establishment meets minimum food requirements in Safe Start Guidance No karaoke/live entertainment
Agricultural Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance Livestock, horse, animal exhibitions/shows/sales/auctions Outdoor capacity at 50% If held indoors, capacity at 50% or 50 participants whichever is less
Agritourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Phase 2 Guidance Animal viewing Hay/wagon/train rides Children's play equipment Private firepit/bonfires

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree farms / u-pick berry farms • Corn mazes • Pumpkin patches
Bowling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Phase 2 guidance • Only league play and practice for league play allowed • No spectators
Card Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Phase 2 guidance • Outdoors only limited to 200 people excluding staff if proper distancing can be achieved • Follow restaurant food and beverage service requirements
Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance • All construction including new work allowed
Drive-In Theaters/Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance • Customers must remain in vehicles except for restroom use and concessions • 10 ft. distance between cars
Water Recreation Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAQs • As outlined in new guidance. • Allows all water recreation facilities (WAC 246-260) to open (HOAs, apartments, senior living, hotels/motels) except for activity pools with play features. • Does not allow recreational water contact facilities (WAC 246-262) to open (water slides, waterparks, lazy rivers, surf pools, wave pools, or splash pads). • Appointments required unless not feasible. If not feasible, then max occupancy must be posted and enforced. • Occupancy based on square footage (162 sq. ft. per person), 50 people max.
Higher Education / Workforce Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-lecture based higher education and workforce training
Retail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance • Arrange contactless pay options, pickup and/or delivery of goods when possible • 30% occupancy • Sit-down food and beverage services must follow Phase 2 restaurant guidance
Manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance
Miscellaneous Venues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Phase 2 Guidance • Large retail events prohibited until Phase 3 (consumer trade shows, bazaars, craft shows, etc.) • Receptions, networking events, sporting events with spectators, live-entertainment prohibited • Allowed: business meetings, training, and testing that cannot be performed virtually • Indoor capacity limited to 30% or 200 people whichever is less with distancing measures • Outdoor capacity limited to 200 people • Retail food service must follow restaurant guidance
Religious and Faith-Based	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Phase 2 Guidance • Outdoor with up to 100 individuals with distancing between households • Outdoor structures allowed with no more than two sides closed • Indoor services at 25% room capacity or 200 people whichever is less • In-person, home-based services with up to 5 total individuals
Motion Picture Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed to operate under Phase 2 Guidance • Talent can remove mask only when on camera • A shared podium is discouraged unless sanitized in between speakers • Talent can be closer than 6-ft with a social barrier like plexiglass • Catering following food guidance

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair/make-up following personal services guidance • Construction activity follow construction guidance • Back-office staff follow professional services guidance
Overnight Group Summer Camps and Similar Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Phase 2 Guidance with strict adherence to Governor's, L&I and DOH requirements • Regular operation with individual campers not permitted • Household cohort group camping occupying one cabin and up to 10 people • All meals consumed outdoors or as takeout in the household cabin • Organized activities to follow the DOH guidelines for summer camps
Outdoor bicycle, running, cross country, country skiing, and non-motorized boating: races, tours and rides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At Phase 2 Guidance

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