New General Updates from the Office of the Governor (Washington State):

Agricultural employers are now required to test their workforce broadly when health officials identify an outbreak that passes certain thresholds (update made to Proclamation 20-57). COVID-19 cases have increased since at an average rate of 500+ new cases/day since the original proclamation was issued on 5/28/20, with many of these cases appearing at farms and food packing facilities. [8/19/20]


Additional updates have been made to guidance for: museums, bowling, agritourism, and outdoor recreation. These venues are open to the public, with requirements dependent on Phase-level by county. [8/20/20]

Back-to-School Updates:
Seattle Public Schools: the School Board approved the OSPI Reopening Plan Template, which includes a remote start of the 2020-21 school year for most students; Special Education and IEP services have yet to be fully defined, [8/12/20]

https://www.seattleschools.org/district/calendars/news/what_s_new/planning_for_re-entry

The application deadline for the Pandemic EBT Emergency School Meals Program is 8/31/20. P-EBT is a new and temporary food benefit to help families buy groceries because schools were closed. Apply and learn more here: https://medium.com/@waOSPI/what-is-pandemic-ebt-a7a086fc9f5

Additional Resources:
Need internet access to keep up with important updates? Use the Washington State Department of Commerce’s Drive-In WIFI hotspots Location Finder for FREE emergency internet access, provided as a response to the impacts of COVID-19.


Mental and emotional support – Washington Listens is offering FREE support specialists to help with managing stress due to COVID-19. Call 1-833-681-0211 (TTY and language access services are available).


For a full list of city, community, county, state, and federal resources call the City of Seattle Customer Service Bureau (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5pm PST) at 206-684-CITY (206-684-2489), or visit Mayor Durkan’s COVID-19 Resources for Community webpage.

https://www.seattle.gov/mayor/covid-19

Important Reminders:
Per the WA State Department of Health, face masks/coverings are required for indoor public settings and/or when outdoors and unable to maintain 6 feet of physical distance from others, in order to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Gatherings are limited to 5 individuals. [ongoing]

https://coronavirus.wa.gov/information-for/you-and-your-family/face-masks-or-cloth-face-covering


- Gatherings for Phase 2 counties (such as King) remains limited to 5 people; the Phase 3 gathering limit is 10 people [effective 7/20/20]

- All live entertainment is prohibited, with the exception of members of the same household maintaining a social distance minimum of 10 feet (outdoors and wearing masks) [effective 7/20/20]

- Face coverings/masks are required in all common spaces [effective 7/25/20]
- Restaurants and bars will require indoor diners to be members of the same household, in addition to other restrictions [effective 7/30/20]
- Gyms/fitness centers will be limited to 5 people for Phase 2 counties, and 25% capacity (Phase 3 counties) [effective 7/30/20]
- Indoor family entertainment/recreation centers and indoor card rooms are prohibited from opening. Indoor movie theater occupancy will be 25% (Phase 3 counties) [7/30/20]
- New Safe Start guidance regarding weddings and funerals: occupancy will be limited to 20% capacity or 30 people with 6ft distances maintained; receptions will be prohibited, though the ceremonies themselves will continue to be permitted [effective 8/10/20]
- Service in restaurants, taverns, brewerries, wineries, and distilleries has been modified in order to maximize safety for patrons and staff [effective 7/30/20]
- New guidance for long-term care facilities has been issued, which will allow visitation and other activities in parallel with the Safe Start plan [effective 8/12/20]

Relief funds to help immigrants and agricultural workers have been created (the Immigrant Relief Fund, $40 million; the Food Production Paid Leave program, $3 million). [8/10/20]

A proclamation going into effect on 8/18/20 has been issued regarding the Washington COVID-19 Food Production Paid Leave program, to provide aid to workers in the food production industry who are unable to obtain leave through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. [8/13/20]

Distance learning and canceling/postponing all in-person extracurricular activities has been strongly recommended by the WA State Department of Health for high-risk counties, with restrictions easing in proportion of risk level (high/moderate/low). Proper hygiene and cleaning protocols are also a part of this plan. [8/5/20]
https://medium.com/wagovernor/inslee-announces-education-recommendations-for-2020-2021-school-year-4d510fe16f4

The eviction moratorium for WA will be extended to 10/15/20, and Governor’s Office staff will work with landlords and tenants in workgroups to discuss additional support. [7/25/20]

Businesses statewide will not be able to serve visitors who are not wearing face masks, and are directed to require and enforce the use of face coverings, per Gov. Jay Inslee’s extension of the Safe Start proclamation. Businesses risk closure and potential business license revocation. [effective 7/7/20]
Gov. Jay Inslee issued a proclamation related to the DSHS Family Emergency Assistance Program (FEAP). DSHS is authorized to expand eligibility for the FEAP to include individuals and families without children. This proclamation is effective immediately and will expire at the end of the state of emergency. [effective 7/9/20]

The U.S. Small Business Administration’s Paycheck Protection Program has resumed accepting applications with a deadline of 8/8/20, to provide small businesses with funding to keep workers on payroll. [effective 7/6/20]