

As of June 30th, this document is no longer in force. It may be used as guidance.

Professional Photography COVID-19 Requirements

Summary of March 19, 2021 changes:

- Adds Phase 3 capacity requirements.

For Phase 1:

- Only one client (and parent or guardian, if client is a minor) should be allowed in studio facilities at any given time. If the session is held offsite, only one client (and parent or guardian if client is a minor) should be staged in the immediate area. Groups are not allowed. An exception can be made for groups consisting of members of the same household only. Mask removal only allowed during the actual taking of the photo.

For Phase 2:

- Same guidelines as Phase 1, but indoor group portraits now allowed for groups who are not members of the same household. Indoor capacity is capped at 25%, up to 75 people, whichever is fewer (excluding staff). Mask removal only allowed during actual taking of the photo.
- Outdoor group portraits allowed for people not in the same household allowed: 75 people maximum and mask removal only allowed during the actual taking of the photo.

For Phase 3:

- Same guidelines as Phase 2, but indoor capacity is capped at 50%, up to 125 people, whichever is fewer (excluding staff). Mask removal only allowed for actual taking of the photo.
- Outdoor group portraits are allowed up to 125 people maximum and mask removal only allowed during actual taking of the photo.

In all phases:

Professional photographers must adopt a written procedure for professional photography activity that is at least as strict as the Phase 2 safety and health requirements below.

Whether indoors or outdoors, photographers must ensure that clients from different households maintain six feet of distancing at all times, including during the taking of the photograph itself.

Requirements Specific to Professional Photography Operations

1. Client Management
 - a. Appointments are required for all clients, allowing sufficient time to sanitize photographic equipment and common areas after each client session.
 - b. Outdoor sessions should be used as much as possible.
 - c. Photographers should maintain social distancing, using no-touch posing methods.
2. Sanitation
 - a. Wash hands regularly before and after photographic sessions.

- b. Frequently sanitize all equipment as well as props, chairs, benches with which a client may come into contact.
- c. Sanitize all restrooms available to clients in-studio
- d. Frequently sanitize all common areas, including door knobs (interior and exterior), counter tops, pens and pencils, tablets, keyboards and monitors.
- e. Remove all unnecessary paper products or décor (magazines, newspapers, extraneous sales materials).
- f. If changing rooms are used during professional photography operations, they should be cleaned with appropriate disinfecting supplies after each new client use, by an employee wearing proper protective equipment.

Safety and Health Requirements

All businesses operating have a general obligation to keep a safe and healthy facility in accordance with state and federal law, and comply with the following COVID-19 worksite-specific safety practices, as outlined in Governor Jay Inslee’s Healthy Washington plan, and in accordance with the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries [General Requirements and Prevention Ideas for Workplaces](#) and the Washington State Department of Health Workplace and Employer Resources & Recommendations at <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Coronavirus/workplace>. All businesses are required to post signage at the entrance to their business to strongly encourage their customers to use cloth face coverings when in store with their staff.