Drive-in Theaters and Events
COVID-19 Requirements

Summary of March 23, 2021 changes:

• Clarifies that drive-in events are covered by this document.

Drive-in theaters and events must adopt a written procedure that is at least as strict as the requirements in this document and that complies with the appropriate safety and health requirements and guidelines established by the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries and the Washington State Department of Health.

Prior to recommencing services, drive-in theaters and events are required to develop at each establishment, a comprehensive COVID-19 exposure control, mitigation, and recovery plan which must be adhered to. A site-specific COVID-19 monitor shall be designated at each location to monitor the health of individuals and enforce the COVID-19 job site safety plan. A copy of the plan must be available at all locations and available for inspection by state and local authorities. Failure to meet this requirement may result in sanctions up to, and including, license suspension.

Safety and Health Requirements

All drive-in theater and event owners have a general obligation to maintain a safe and healthy workplace in accordance with state and federal law and safety and health rules for a variety of workplace hazards. Employers must specifically ensure operations follow the main Labor & Industries COVID-19 requirements to protect workers. COVID-19 workplace and safety requirements can be found here.

Additional information is available at Novel Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19) Resources and Paid Leave under the Washington Family Care Act and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

Requirements Specific to Drive-in Theater and Event Operations for all phases

1. Customer Management
   a. Customers must remain in their vehicles at all times except to visit the restroom or concessions area.
   b. Customer payment transactions for tickets or concessions may be handled through multiple channels, including phone transactions, on-line transactions, or point-of-sale transactions. If payment by currency is the only possible method of transaction, customers and employees must adhere to social distancing and sanitation standards in this document.
   c. Customers must wear a cloth face covering when leaving cars for any reason.
   d. Concessions must be consumed in the customer’s vehicle or in a designated dining area.
   e. Dining areas must follow eating and drinking establishment requirements.
   f. Provide 10 feet of clearance between vehicles.

2. Live Entertainment – any live entertainment must follow the theater and performing arts requirements.
3. Sanitation
   a. Concession stand operations must follow Department of Health guidelines for food workers and food establishments.
   b. Provide disinfectant and sanitation products for workers to clean their workspace, equipment, tools, and common areas.
   c. Place hand sanitizer at check-out counters and distributed throughout customer areas, storage areas, and administrative offices.
   d. Frequently sanitize working surfaces, particularly concession/ticket counters, electronic pin pads, and other areas contacted by customers and employees.
   e. Require hourly hand washing or sanitation by employees.
   f. Physical contact with a customer, vendor, or supplier is not permitted under any circumstances.