Eastern Idaho **Public Health**
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
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GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESSES TO RE-OPEN

PURPOSE:

On April 23, 2020, Governor Brad Little issued the Idaho Rebounds steps to reopen Idaho after COVID-19. It is a four-phased program to slowly reopen businesses and services that have been closed. S**tage 1 addresses the reopening of most businesses starting May 1, 2020, as long as criteria are met.** Stage 2 addresses the reopening of restaurant dining rooms, indoor gyms and recreation facilities, and hair salons beginning May 16, 2020. (EIPH has developed separate guidelines for food establishments/restaurant dining rooms). These guidelines are subject to be modified or extended as more information becomes available about limiting the transmission of COVID-19.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Communication Protocols

- Place signs at the entrance and in high visibility areas that encourages patrons to:
  o Not enter if they are feeling ill.
  o Utilize cough and sneeze etiquette along with proper hand hygiene.
  o Practice social distancing (physical distance between people can reduce the spread of disease).
  o **Printable sign resources are available at CDC website**: CDC COVID-19 Print Resources.
- Determine how to relay information about your business operations with employees and business partners.
- Decide how to keep your employees and patrons informed about the latest public health recommendations and your response.
- Research recommendations or guidance from any governing boards that have oversight on your industry to make sure you are in compliance.
- Research any local (city or county) ordinances to ensure you are in compliance. Local ordinances may be stricter than the guidance provided by the State of Idaho and could have an enforcement component.

Employee Health Monitoring and Personal Hygiene

- It is important to do a pre-check to make sure *all* employees are healthy and not exhibiting signs of illness prior to working their shift.
- Employees must stay home when sick and ensure sick leave policies are in place. Implement employee self-check for symptoms of COVID-19. For more information please review CDC guidance: CDC Safety Practices and Guidance. Utilize COVID-19 Decision Tree.
- If an employee has contact with a known COVID-19 case, they will be contacted by EIPH and asked to quarantine and self-isolate for 14 days from the time of last known contact.
- Wear a clean uniform each day.
- Instruct employees to wash hands throughout the day with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer throughout the workplace when unable to wash hands. CDC Handwashing Instructions.
- Employees are encouraged to avoid touching their face, including eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, for their safety and the safety of others in the workplace.
- Encourage employees to utilize best health practices such as covering mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing and sneezing or use the inside of their elbow. Supply tissues and no-touch waste bins. CDC Coughing and Sneezing Etiquette.

Cleaning, Sanitizing, and Other Safety Measures

- Prior to opening, thoroughly clean and sanitize the entire facility, especially if it has been closed.
- Frequently clean and disinfect door handles, surfaces of doors that people may touch to open or close the door, handrails, countertops, and other high touch surfaces. Do not overlook seldom-touched surfaces.
- An employee who handles payment transactions during the course of business shall utilize best practice cleaning measures to maintain clean workspace such as reception area, computer, phone, door handles, light switches, etc.
- Have a designated employee conduct regular cleaning with an approved EPA cleaning product of bathroom facility every hour (provide personal protective equipment).
- A list of recommended, EPA registered disinfectants to use can be found here: https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sarscov-2.

Social Distancing and Other Recommended Practices

Note: Social distancing is defined as maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet between individuals.

- Consider having hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes available to customers at the entrance of the facility. Routinely refill.
- Limit the number of patrons allowed in your business to accommodate social distancing.
- Implement social distancing protocols for customers waiting in line inside or outside the facility. This can be done by placing tape on the floor to act as markers 6 feet apart indicating where customers should stand. Staff may need to monitor and guide customers accordingly.
- Ensure that your employees are practicing physical distancing measures between each other and customers. If this is not feasible, it is especially important for employees to wear cloth face coverings.
- If practical, physical barriers such as partitions or Plexiglas at registers are acceptable.
- During financial transactions, have the customer insert their chip card/swipe their credit card into the payment device themselves to minimize contact with items from others. If a signature is required on a credit card slip, sanitize the pen that was used by the customer or consider emailing receipts in place of paper receipts.
- Employers should follow local and state requirements when it comes to face coverings, which the CDC recommends as an effective tool to mitigate risk from individuals who show COVID-19 symptoms. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html.
- Encourage telework, whenever possible and feasible with business operations.
- Return employees to work in phases, if physical distancing, personal protections, and sanitation are feasible.

For more information on COVID-19, resources are available at the following:
- Eastern Idaho Public Health: www.EIPH.Idaho.gov or email us at covidquestions@eiph.idaho.gov.
- State of Idaho official novel coronavirus (COVID-19) website: https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/
- State of Idaho website for re-opening Idaho's economy: https://rebound.idaho.gov
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/airport-retail-factsheet.html