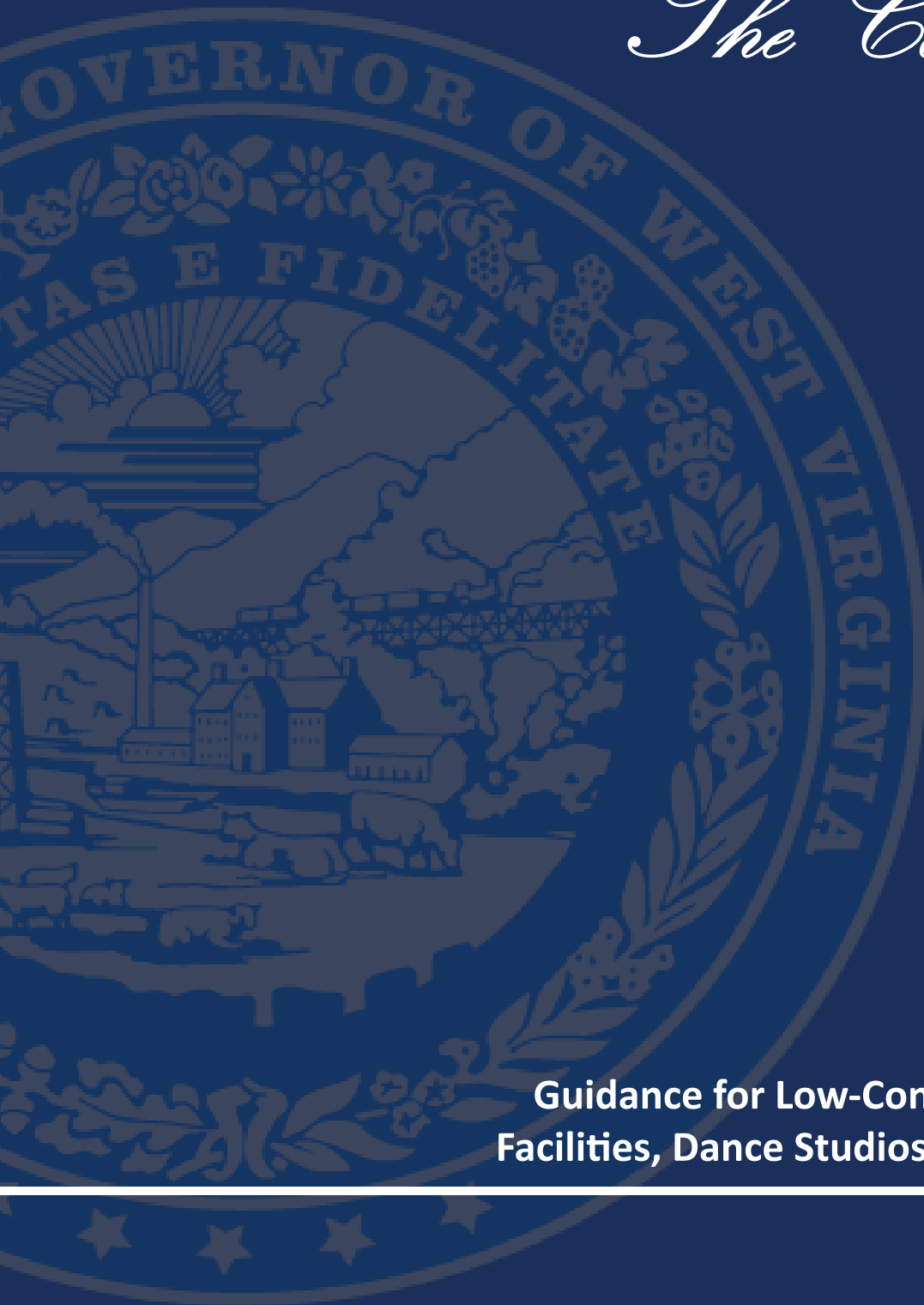


WEST VIRGINIA STRONG

The Comeback

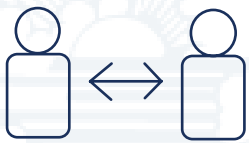


**Guidance for Low-Contact Sports Training
Facilities, Dance Studios, and Similar Facilities**

Issued on May 15, 2020

Guidance for Low-Contact Sports Training Facilities, Dance Studios, and Similar Facilities

Under Gov. Justice's reopening plan, **West Virginia Strong — The Comeback**, low-contact sports training facilities, dance studios, and similar facilities are to be allowed to resume operations, along with fitness centers, gymnasiums, and recreation centers, on Monday, May 18, 2020. To do so, Gov. Justice has issued the following guidance to mitigate the exposure and spread of COVID-19 among staff and patrons. These guidelines, in addition to any and all relevant guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), will help West Virginians safely obtain the services provided by such facilities. These facilities are allowed and encouraged to implement more stringent protocols as they see fit.



As your business reviews and implements these new measures, we encourage you to share and discuss them with your employees and your patrons, both children and parents. Communicating enhanced cleaning and sanitization practices will make staff and patrons feel more confident in your wellness center/exercise therapy facilities.

Please note: The following guidelines are being published in advance of Governor Justice's Executive Order — currently anticipated to be effective as of the week of May 18, 2020 — that will allow for the opening of fitness centers, gymnasiums, and recreation centers, and is deemed to include low-contact sports training facilities, dance studios, and similar facilities.

Note further: Such facilities should also consult the Guidance for West Virginia Small Businesses, available at governor.wv.gov, to determine other best practices.

Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in appropriate enforcement measures.

GUIDANCE FOR LOW-CONTACT SPORTS TRAINING FACILITIES, DANCE STUDIOS, AND SIMILAR FACILITIES

OPERATIONAL RESTRICTIONS/REQUIREMENTS:

- **Plan:** Develop and implement appropriate policies, in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations and guidance, and informed by industry best practices:
 - Prepare the building for reopening;
 - Prepare your employees for their return to work;
 - Create a social distancing plan to manage and reduce excessive contact and interaction;
 - Create a plan for personal protective equipment;
 - Reduce touch points to the maximum extent possible;
 - Increase cleaning frequency and the availability of hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, and other DIY cleaning products to ensure touch points and training and sports equipment are properly sanitized between each use;
 - Establish an open line of communication with employees regarding safety.
- **Occupancy:** Restrict facility access to staffed hours only and limit facility occupancy to **40 percent of capacity** as dictated by fire code.
- **Social Distancing and Equipment:** Implement strict social distancing guidelines of at least six (6) feet between all individuals, modify scheduling to reduce unnecessary interactions to the greatest extent possible, adjust equipment layout and close or restrict access to equipment to maintain at least six (6) feet of distance between equipment and where such equipment may not be moved or properly spaced, and provide physical barriers between training or sports equipment and/or machines (e.g. plastic or plexiglass shields, plastic sheeting, shower curtains, etc.).
- **PPE:** All employees and patrons must wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including appropriate face coverings to the greatest extent possible.
- **Cleaning:** Ensure that staffing and supplies available for such facilities are sufficient to enable enhanced sanitization and cleaning measures in accordance with appropriate CDC guidelines.
- **Limitations on Facilities:** The following should remain closed:
 - Showers, locker rooms, and lockers.
 - Any swimming pools, hot tubs, saunas, steam rooms, and other water or spa facilities.
 - Basketball courts, racquetball courts, indoor tennis courts
 - Water fountains, common areas, break rooms, check-in counters, and other areas in which patrons or employees may congregate.
- **Limitations on Group Classes:** Group classes should be conducted outdoors, limited, or canceled to the greatest extent possible. One on one classes should be encouraged to the greatest extent possible. In the event group classes are held, such classes may only be held if they can be completed in accordance with social distancing recommendations (including but not limited to the restriction of 40% capacity, with more than six (6) feet of distance maintained between participants at all times; no shared equipment during the class; sufficiently adjusted class schedules to allow for deep cleaning between classes; and all contact activities should be completed without any person-to-person contact). To the greatest extent possible, such classes should be held outdoors.
- **Touch points:** Point of sale equipment, doorknobs, light switches, buttons, and training and sports equipment should be cleaned and sanitized between each use or touch. To the greatest extent possible, any and all sporting equipment should not be shared, and any such equipment must be sanitized before and after use before use by another individual.
- **Payments:** Encourage customers to make non-cash payments.
- **Plan:** Plan for potential COVID-19 cases and work with local health department officials when needed (i.e., monitor and trace COVID-19 cases, deep-clean facilities).

GUIDANCE FOR LOW-CONTACT SPORTS TRAINING FACILITIES, DANCE STUDIOS, AND SIMILAR FACILITIES

- **Signage:** Post extensive signage on health policies, including the following documents in the workplace to help educate all on COVID-19 best practices:
 - [CDC: Stop the Spread of Germs](#)
 - [CDC: COVID-19 Symptoms](#)

CUSTOMER PROTECTION

- **Customer screening:** Screen patrons for illness prior to entry:
 - Temperature checks
 - Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
 - Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
 - Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
 - Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
 - Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?
- **PPE:** All patrons shall be required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment at all times, including appropriate facial coverings to the greatest extent possible.
- **Ventilation:** Keep doors and windows open where possible to improve ventilation.
- **Signage:** Post signs encouraging social distancing of at least six (6) feet between individuals.
- **Cleaning:** Sufficiently clean all equipment customers or staff come in contact with by using disinfecting wipes before and after each use and provide, at each piece of equipment, appropriate materials to clean and disinfect such equipment.

EMPLOYEE PROTECTION

- **Employee screening:** Screen all employees reporting to work for COVID-19 symptoms.
 - Temperature checks.
 - Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
 - Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
 - Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
 - Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
 - Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?
- **PPE:** All staff shall be required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including face coverings to the maximum extent possible.
- **Training:** Provide training on PPE based on CDC guidelines.
- **Personal cleaning:** Provide a sanitizing station with soap and/or bottle of hand sanitizer and require regular hand washing.
- **Customer contact:** Limit customer contact to the greatest extent possible, and require proper cleaning and sanitization between any necessary customer contact.
- **Distancing:** Practice recommended social distancing to the greatest extent possible.