



ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

Administration
PO Box 5000
Coupeville, WA 98239
P: 360.679.7350 F: 360.679.7390

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

STATEMENT REGARDING PHASE 3 APPROVAL (CORONAVIRUS)

Island County, June 19, 2020:

On June 16, Island County Public Health submitted a variance application to advance from Phase 2 to Phase 3 of the Governor's [Safe Start](#) reopening plan. On June 19, the Secretary of Health approved the Island County Phase 3 variance request, subject to conditions. With this approval, business services and activities listed in Phase 3 of the Safe Start plan are now permitted, provided appropriate guidelines and safety measures are implemented. In order to remain in compliance with Phase 3, Island County must adhere to the aforementioned conditions, including but not limited to:

- An individual Phase 3 business sector may reopen only AFTER the state publishes its guidelines for the specific sector, or publishes generic phase guidance which applies to all businesses opening in Phase 3. An individual business is only allowed to reopen after it can implement those guidelines. The guidelines can be accessed at <https://www.governor.wa.gov/issues/issues/covid-19-resources/covid-19-reopening-guidance-businesses-and-workers>.
- No decisions have been made yet on a timeline for a county moving to Phase 4.

Subject to the conditions in this approval, the activities and business services listed in Phase 3 of Governor Inslee's Phased Approach to Reopening Washington Plan are now permitted in Island County. These activities and business services are:

- Recreation: Outdoor group recreational sports activities of 50 or fewer people; recreational facilities at <50% capacity (gyms, public pools, etc.), and professional sports without audience participation (horseracing, baseball, etc.)
- Gatherings: Allow gatherings with no more than 50 people
- Travel: Resume non-essential travel
- Businesses/employers:
 - o Restaurants/taverns <75% capacity and table size no larger than 10

- o Bar areas in restaurants/taverns at <25% capacity
- o Movie theaters at <50% capacity
- o Customer-facing government services (telework remains strongly encouraged)
- o Libraries
- o Museums
- o All other business activities not yet listed except for nightclubs and events with greater than 50 people

People in high-risk populations are strongly encouraged to limit their participation in these Phase 3 activities and business services. High-risk populations are currently defined by the CDC as:

- Persons 65 years of age and older;
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions (particularly not well controlled), including:
 - o People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma,
 - o People who have serious heart conditions,
 - o People who are immunocompromised,
 - o People with severe obesity,
 - o People with diabetes,
 - o People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, and
 - o People with liver disease; and
- People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility.

The [complete approval letter](#) with conditions is available for review on the [Island County Public Health webpage](#).

For additional information:

Island County Public Health – www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx

Call Center # 360.678.2301, Mondays through Fridays (8:00am – 4:30pm), Saturdays and Sundays (9:00am – 4:00pm)

WA State Coronavirus Response (COVID-19) – <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>