

Q&A

Governor Inslee announced that counties, including King County, are eligible to apply for additional business and recreational activities to begin next week.

We've compiled some information that we hope will be helpful for Seattle residents, businesses, and community-based organizations as you consider how a modified Phase One will affect your operations. We have also identified questions we anticipate receiving, and will be working with the Governor's Office, L&I and Public Health – Seattle & King County to understand how best to provide clarity to our businesses and organizations.

Starting June 1, 2020, Governor Inslee's [Safe Start](#), Washington's Phased Reopening allows any county to apply to the Secretary of Health to move forward to the next phase. King County will be applying for a modified Phase One on June 1, 2020 to the Department of Health.

Below are the general steps that King County will take:

- King County has not yet met key criteria to enter Phase Two of the Safe Start plan and case counts are still unstable, so it will move forward with applying for a modified approach, including partial re-opening of the following businesses and activities:
 - Recreation ([1](#) and [2](#)) and [fitness](#)*
 - Only allowed outdoor with 5 -- not including the instructor -- or fewer people outside of household
 - Gatherings ([faith-based](#))*
 - Only allowed outdoor of 5 or fewer people outside the household
 - [Additional construction](#)*
 - As outlined in Phase 2 guidance
 - [Manufacturing operations](#)*
 - As outlined in Phase 2 guidance
 - [Real estate](#)*
 - 25 percent of building occupancy
 - Indoor services limited to 30 minutes
 - [In-store Retail](#)*
 - 15 percent of building occupancy
 - Indoor services limited to 30 minutes
 - [Personal Services](#)*
 - 25 percent of building occupancy
 - [Professional services](#)*
 - 25 percent of building occupancy
 - Indoor services limited to 30 minutes for customers
 - [Photography](#)*
 - As outlined in Phase 2 guidance
 - [Pet grooming](#)*
 - 25 percent of building occupancy
 - [Restaurants](#)*
 - No indoor dining allowed
 - Outdoor dining is permitted but seating at 50 percent of existing outdoor capacity
- On June 1, 2020, King County is expected to submit its application.

- Once the application is submitted, it has taken two business days to be approved, but without breaks, some applications have taken longer for review.
- The Secretary of Health will evaluate King County's application based on how its data compare to the targets outline in the Safe Start plan, as well as the information provided by the county about its ability to respond to situations such as outbreaks, increased deaths and other COVID-19 activity. Submission of an application does not guarantee that King County will be approved for the modified Phase One variance.
- The Secretary of Health can approve King County to move into the modified Phase One completely or they may only approve certain activities in the next phase.