

As of 11/6/2020

COME TOGETHER

When you are ready, we'll be ready.

Washington State recently announced [reopening guidelines](#), allowing for convention centers to open during Phase 2 and 3 at a capacity of 200 people or 30% per meeting room (whichever is less) for business meetings, testing, and educational opportunities, as well as weddings for up to 30 attendees.

During the extended closure, leadership of some of the convention centers throughout the state came together to form the Washington Meeting & Convention Coalition. This group created and presented a Safe Reopening Plan to the Governor's office defining minimum standards for operations during this pandemic. It is recommended for meeting and event planners to also check regional health authority guidelines for any variations.

We are pleased to present these commitments so when you are ready to gather again, you can rest assured that we will be ready.

Better Together

Our coalition asserts our commitment to the health and safety of our employees, partners, clients, exhibitors, and guests as its top priority. It also recognizes the importance of returning to in-person events as vital for our industry partners, necessary for some segments of business like education and testing, and as critical drivers for economic recovery for our respective regions.

Our venue teams have enacted modifications to exceed reopening guidelines and comply with all local public health authority regulations. Not only will you will feel confident booking your next event, but your guests will also feel comfortable attending.

Here is what you can expect from convention centers in Washington:

Flexibility

Confidence

- Customized floor plans to meet current and anticipated future capacity guidelines.
- Flexible booking policies to allow peace of mind when selecting dates.

Cleaning and Sanitation

Comfort

- Many have applied for or been certified by Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC) Star Accreditation. The [GBAC STAR™ Certification](#) program is designed to establish a comprehensive system of cleaning, disinfection, and infectious disease prevention.
- HVAC upgrades to improve indoor air quality.

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- Electrostatic sprayers to thoroughly disinfect between meetings.
- UVC cleaning technology added to escalators.
- Frequent cleaning and sanitation of high touch and high traffic areas during events.
- Hand sanitizer available at locations throughout all venues.
- Venue modifications including changing restroom fixtures to touchless and disabling air hand dryers. Water fountains replaced by single bottle fillers.

Physical Distancing & Face Coverings

Support

- Physical distancing protocols are established through custom floor plans designed with your event manager and reinforced by well-trained staff, pre-event communication support, and strategic signage.
- Staggered event times and/or entrances will be utilized if there are multiple events in a facility.
- Protocols in place require all staff and guests to wear facial coverings.

Staff Training

Safety

- Staff have been trained on COVID safety, positive reinforcement, and leading by example.
- Staff will be subject to wellness checks prior to entering the workplace through one designated entrance at each facility.

Communication

Responsibility

- Clear communication in advance is key. Our teams look forward to assisting you with getting the information out to your guests and partners about safety protocols.
- Consistent signage in both front and back of house.
- Provision of images, video and graphics that can be integrated with your marketing to let guests and vendors know what to expect from venues and what is expected of them.
- Use of each venue's assets (and our collective reach) like social media, email databases, public relations, marquees, and other methods to reassure and inform guests.
- Plans in place for contact tracing with individual local health departments.

Food Service

Creativity

- Pre-packaged individual service items.
- Suspension of self-serve buffets.
- Adapted touchless water and coffee stations.

Together in partnership with you, our valued event planners, we make our resolute commitment to our industry and our communities to conduct events in a safe manner. We recognize it is critical to economic recovery, not only for our venues, but for our event planning partners and other hospitality-related businesses facing mounting losses in our communities. We will continue to monitor guidelines

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and make adjustments, as necessary, to our protocols. Until we see you again, stay safe. When you're ready, we'll be ready.

To see more details on individual operational plans, please visit our websites:

[Greater Tacoma Convention Center](#)

[Lynnwood Convention Center](#)

[Meydenbauer Center](#)

[Spokane Convention Center](#)

[Three Rivers Convention Center](#)

[Washington State Convention Center](#)

[Wenatchee Convention Center](#)

[Yakima Convention Center](#)