

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING PHASE 2 REQUIREMENTS**

- What is allowed under Phase 2?
  - All construction activities, including new projects, are allowed as long as they follow [jobsite safety requirements](#).
  - Read Governor Inslee's guidance [here](#).
  
- When does Phase 2 begin?
  - Not until the governor authorizes it. He has indicated that statewide implementation of Phase 2 will not be until June 1, 2020 at the earliest.
  - However, some counties will be allowed to move to Phase 2 prior to the rest of the state. If you live in one of these counties, you may begin Phase 2 activities immediately: Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Skamania, Stevens, Wahkiakum, and Whitman. Other counties have made application for this variance, but are still being evaluated.
  
- What are the major differences between Phase 1 and Phase 2?
  - Authorizes all construction work.
  - Removes the requirement [to post the work that will be done on the job site](#), as all work is now authorized.
  - Adds a requirement in the safety plan that a [Job Hazard Analysis](#) be done for all medium and high-risk work (anything under six feet) on a job site.
  - Specifies the specific masks required for work done under 6 feet and/or in confined spaces.
  - Removes requirement for facial coverings for one person on job site.
  - Removes the requirement that gloves be worn at all times.
  - Makes clear that temperature checks and health screening can be done by employees at home prior to starting a shift.
  
- Do I need to continue to have a safety plan? COVID Supervisor? Or are we back to business as usual?
  - You must continue to utilize ALL the jobsite safety requirements, which are updated [here](#) to include Phase 2 requirements.
  
- What about work that incidentally must be performed less than six feet apart? For example, lifting beams, installing shower/glass doors, installing counters, installing fireplaces using all appropriate PPE's but not 6 feet apart.
  - All work that will be performed under 6 feet or in a confined space must have a [Job Hazard Analysis](#) plan on site and they need to wear an N95 or equivalent mask.
  - Use this helpful guide to find out what mask you need for what task: <https://www.lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/F414-168-000.pdf>
  
- What is a manufactured mask? Do we have to use N95 masks?
  - No, you do not need to use N95 masks except for work in confined spaces.
  - Manufactured masks are commercially produced and can include masks such as paper dust and KN95 masks.
  
- What is a confined space? A space that is **all** of the following:

- Large enough and arranged so an employee could fully enter the space and work.
- Has limited or restricted entry or exit. Examples of spaces with limited or restricted entry are tanks, vessels, silos, storage bins, hoppers, vaults, excavations, and pits.
- Not primarily designed for continuous human occupancy.

*Note: See Appendix A Frequently Asked Questions and Examples of Confined Spaces by visiting the labor and industries web site [here](#).*

- What happens if I don't comply?
  - Besides the potential of increased COVID-19 risk to you, your family, employees, clients and the community, there is project shut down, fines by L&I which could range in the thousands of dollars the loss of your business license, and you could hurt the ability of our entire housing industry to continue building for an indefinite time period.
  - Articles have appeared across the state where media and members of the public have visited jobsites, taken pictures of non-compliance and reported violations.
  - Adhering to the new safety requirement to return us fully to work is critical to our industry. If you cannot follow all of the jobsite rules of masks, gloves, wash stations, postings, and distancing, etc., DO NOT work until you can. If you have compliance questions, please email BIAW at [info@biaw.com](mailto:info@biaw.com) or call 360-352-7800.
  
- What happens to my permits under Phase 2?
  - Contact your local city/county planning department. The governor's proclamation neither extends nor approves permits.
  
- Do visitors like inspectors, suppliers, or property owners have to have their temperature taken?
  - The temp screening requirement is only for employees, not visitors to sites like inspectors or suppliers.
  
- Do I have to have COVID supervisor if I have less than seven staff?
  - A COVID supervisor has to be designated for the company (just like a safety staff). But, a COVID supervisor is only required to be on site when there are seven or more people on site. A COVID supervisor can also change. For example, the supervisor that is designated on site for the day doesn't necessarily have to be the person designated generally by the company. They can designate for the day. The supervisor can also be one of the seven people on site.
  
- Can contractors use Client's bathroom while on residential project
  - Yes, but the bathroom needs to be in close proximity to the work being done and accessible at all times by employees.
  
- I am confused about the requirements for handwashing stations---how many persons/per job site/or size of project? Also, what about disposal of waste water from hand washing stations?
  - The requirement is that there be one hand-washing station per job site. The station has to have water (running when accessible), soap and a basin. Water

needs to be tepid temperature (appx 105 degrees). We have been told that greywater can be disposed of on site.

- Are businesses allowed to go out there and now do quotes for jobs – is this allowed?
  - Yes, estimates are now allowed under Phase 2.
- How do businesses handle COVID 19 requirements (like handwashing station) and posting documents if they are there for less than a day i.e., installers, HVAC work?
  - If they are working as a sub, those requirements should be handled by the General Contractor. However, I would recommend all subs make sure that the job site is complying by the general before doing any work. For stand-alone work they are doing for a private customer as the only contractor, they are responsible for all compliance and requirements.
- Have employee(s) who wants to wait until pandemic is over – uncomfortable to go back to work
  - Employees have that option under the new COVID rules, but that doesn't mean you have to eventually hire them back later. That decision is left to you. You can find more about the rules at this resource from Employment Security. (<https://www.esd.wa.gov/unemployment/basic-eligibility-requirements> )
- What do they do if their General (non-member) is not concerned about/doesn't have a COVID Phase 2 system setup
  - Job site needs to be compliant. If GC isn't compliant or isn't cooperating you, as the sub, have two options. 1) don't do the work, or 2) make sure the job site is complying when their company is on it. Have a strong conversation with the GC.
- What do/should I do if I see other businesses not abiding by COVID rules?
  - Ask them to comply so that the whole industry does not get sent home again. Or have them call BIAW. Positive peer pressure is our best tool here. If non-compliant company is a member, BIAW can call them or ask your Local Association to do it – helping to apply peer pressure.
- Are employees permitted to ride in vehicles together?
  - It's similar to the rules regarding proximity on the jobsite. If the employees can maintain 6-foot social distancing in a vehicle, they are required to wear face coverings, but those coverings can be cloth or any cover. They are permitted to also ride in the same vehicle if 6-ft distance cannot be maintained but are required to wear a N95 mask or equivalent.
  - Use this helpful guide to find out what mask you need for what task: <https://www.lni.wa.gov/forms-publications/F414-168-000.pdf>