

COVID-19: Guidance for Large Indoor and Outdoor Events from the Wyoming Department of Health

December 9, 2020

Background

Public health orders continue and are modified periodically. All orders are designed to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Key definitions and order provisions are contained in each order. Questions regarding enforcement and interpretation of orders should be directed to your County Public Health Offices. This document provides guidance from the Wyoming Department of Health for large indoor and outdoor events.

A copy of the current statewide orders can be found at: <https://covid19.wyo.gov/>.

General Provisions

The Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) recommends the following guidelines for large indoor and outdoor events as outlined in the current orders. Indoor events can be held with no more than 25% venue capacity, with a maximum of 100 people, and outdoor events can be held with no more than 50% of venue capacity, with a maximum of 250 people, subject to the following conditions and provisions. For clarity, the person limit in paragraph 5 of the current orders is not calculated by adding participants and spectators/attendees together.

Events include, for example, rodeos, speedway motor races, outdoor concerts, sporting events, fairs, track and field races, farmer's markets, fireworks shows, weddings, and other events of a similar nature.

To ensure compliance with these provisions, event organizers should consider designating an individual or group to oversee implementation of these provisions and guidelines.

Physical Distancing Provisions

1. Groups of attendees seated or standing together must be limited to 6. Exceptions can be made for groups larger than 6 who are solely comprised of members of the same household.
2. A 6-foot distance must be maintained between individual groups at all times, including at entrances, exits, concessions, ticket booths, and restrooms.
 - a. In the event the required 6 feet of distance between individual groups cannot be maintained, face coverings must be worn during the event, to the greatest extent possible, unless wearing a face covering is specifically required by Statewide Public Health Order #4: Required Face Coverings in Certain Places, with Exceptions.
 - b. Event organizers should consider strategies for ensuring that attendees from different groups do not congregate at any point before, during, or after the event. Potential strategies include the following (if applicable to the event):
 - i. Require or encourage tickets be purchased online prior to the event to ensure adequate spacing between groups as well as to prevent congregation at ticket booths.
 - ii. Provide multiple portals for entry and exit to the venue to prevent large groups of people from congregating. Stagger entry and exit times for spectators seated in different parts of the venue.
 - iii. At any place where attendees may stand in line (entrances, exits, concession stands, restroom), attendees should be reminded to stand at least 6 feet apart using markings on the floor, signage, and/or other means.
 - iv. If possible, keep different areas of the venue separated to decrease interactions among spectators.
 - v. Do not allow spectators to congregate.
 - vi. Do not allow grandstands to be densely populated. Use of grandstands should be limited in order to allow proper distancing between groups.
3. The number of people in a confined area at any time must be limited to allow for adequate distancing between households.
4. Signage must be posted on premises reminding separate parties to stand at least six (6) feet apart.

Event Operations Provisions

1. The event venue must be cleaned thoroughly, including all high touch areas before and after each event, according to [CDC guidelines for cleaning](#).
2. Staff who come within six (6) feet of attendees or other staff must wear a face covering.
3. The event must not take place without appropriate protective equipment for staff (face coverings, gloves, etc.), EPA-approved disinfectants and sanitizers, soap, and other necessary cleaning supplies.
4. The event must encourage contactless and non-signature payment methods.
 - a. If not possible for all customers, card and payment stations must be sanitized after each use.
 - b. Staff must sanitize hands between handling payment options.
5. Events must display signage at the entrance to remind people not to enter the premises if they are ill or have symptoms of COVID-19.
6. Food and beverage service must follow the provisions for restaurants (see Restaurant Guidance found [here](#)).
7. Sporting event participants must not congregate in groups larger than 12 individuals. Groups of 12 should avoid mixing. Sporting event participants, performers, and others participating in the event should practice social distancing as much as possible before, during, and after the event and wear face coverings whenever feasible. WDH encourages participant groups be limited in size to include the smallest number of individuals possible.
8. All events should follow the public health recommendations of the CDC and the Wyoming Department of Health, including:
 - a. Washing hands often with soap and water (using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol when soap and water is not immediately available).
 - b. Practicing social distancing by avoiding close contact with others.
 - c. Avoiding touching face, eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - d. Covering coughs and sneezes with an elbow or a tissue.
 - e. Wearing a face covering when in public.

Provisions Regarding Screening and Record Keeping

1. Prior to the event, staff, hosts/organizers, and event participants (not attendees), must be screened for symptoms of COVID-19, or exposure to a person with COVID-19 during the previous fourteen (14) days. See the screening guidance for businesses found [here](#).
 - a. Staff, hosts/organizers, or event participants with symptoms of illness, or known exposure to a person with COVID-19 infection within the previous fourteen (14) days shall not participate in the event.
 - b. Logs of the screening activity must be kept and made available for inspection by the local health officer.

Parades

1. While parades are exempt from event requirements, the WDH strongly recommends that the above social distancing, cleaning, face covering, and staff screening precautions occur in order to limit COVID-19 transmission during these events. Specifically for parades, consider extending parade routes and/or extending into residential areas to allow for more spacing between spectators and to allow spectators to watch from their homes and yards. Limit the number of people per float to allow for adequate distancing.

More resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for events can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/index.html> as well as <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/considerations-for-events-gatherings.html>.

For more information about the COVID-19 outbreak please visit: health.wyo.gov or cdc.gov.

