

Phase 1 Guidance

Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for Cosmetology and Barber Professionals

During Phase 1, the public and businesses will be required to adopt new behaviors and rigorous safeguards to reduce risk for all. In Phase 1, **barbershops and hair salons may allow services by appointment only with strong safeguards and physical distancing.**

If providing services, **the following measures should be implemented to help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission amongst employees, customers, and the community.** For additional information, visit coronavirus.dc.gov/phaseone.

Employees and Customers Should Practice Everyday Prevention Measures

- **Stay at home if you are sick** or were recently exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- Stay at least 6 feet from other people when possible and allow no more than 1 client per stylist/barber in the hair salon.
- Employees and customers should wear a cloth face covering at all times.
- Gloves should be worn as indicated per routine job responsibilities.
- Perform frequent hand hygiene (with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub).
 - Key times to perform hand hygiene include:
 - Before and after using the toilet,
 - Before and after putting on, touching, or removing cloth face coverings,
 - Before and after work shifts and work breaks,
 - Before and after services to each client,
 - After handling customer belongings, and
 - After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Employer considerations to encourage employee and customer safety
 - Provide supplies to allow for frequent hand hygiene (e.g. soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol) at each workstation and in customer areas (e.g. check out spaces and waiting areas).
 - Provide staff with appropriate personal protective equipment (e.g. masks, gloves) and cloth face coverings.
 - Implement leave policies that are flexible and non-punitive, and allow sick employees to stay home.
 - Educate employees about COVID-19. Refer to <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/> for more information.

Avoid Close Contact and Reduce Touchpoints

- Arrange workstations, common areas, break rooms, and other areas of the business to ensure at least 6 feet between customers and employees. Consider closing off or limiting access to areas where physical distancing cannot be practiced.
- Use visual cues to help prevent congregating in waiting areas or checkout areas.
- Move retail inventory to “no-touch” areas (i.e., behind a counter).
- Implement payment via digital platforms, as much as possible.
- Remove high touch items that are not able to be cleaned or disinfected from the service areas of the business (e.g., magazines, newspapers).

Screening and Monitoring for Symptoms

- Perform screening (e.g., symptom questionnaires) of employees and customers daily, prior to entering the facility. Place a sign at entrances informing customers of any screening procedures.

- Maintain a daily record of individuals in the business for at least 30 days.

Clean and Disinfect

- Business should have a comprehensive plan for cleaning and disinfecting high traffic and high touch surface areas (e.g., counters, payment kiosks, restroom, etc.) routinely throughout the day, and in between customer use.
- Scheduling should allow for adequate time to clean and disinfect between customers.
- For more information about disinfectants that are effective against the virus that causes COVID-19, see the CDC website <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>.
- If the building has been closed for an extended period of time, remember to check HVAC systems to ensure all water systems are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown.

The guidelines above will continue to be updated as the outbreak evolves. Please visit

<https://coronavirus.dc.gov/> regularly for the most current information.