



Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

Guidelines



Why Guidelines?

The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture Guidelines was prepared in conjunction with the Ministry of Health to provide information that might assist individuals and organizations with the implementation of Safety Protocols for the purpose of reducing and eliminating the spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).

What is the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses found in both animals and humans. Some infect people and are known to cause illnesses ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases. A novel coronavirus (CoV) is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans. The new, or “novel” coronavirus, first called 2019-nCoV, now called COVID-19, had not been previously detected before the outbreak was reported in Wuhan, China in December 2019 (<https://covid19.gov.bs/faqs/>).

How the Virus Spreads

The new coronavirus is a respiratory virus, which spreads primarily through contact with an infected person through respiratory droplets. Droplets can be generated when a person coughs or sneezes, or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose (<https://covid19.gov.bs/faqs/>).

The following safety measures are recommended to mitigate the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with others by staying at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.
- Cover coughs and sneezes, and immediately wash or sanitizer your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Monitor your health daily.

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>)

DIVISION OF YOUTH

GUIDELINES



- RE-EMERGE ● RE-ENERGIZE ● RE-ENGAGE

Purpose

These guidelines are to assist Youth Organizations and Youth Leaders in making decisions regarding reopening of Youth Programmes and Camps during the COVID-19 pandemic. This document has been vetted and approved by the Ministry of Health to ensure that it includes the most accurate information to aid the process of re-emerging from curfews and lockdowns, re-engaging the various Youth Programmes and re-energizing our young people, youth workers and volunteers alike.

The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture recommends that all Youth Organizations and Youth Leaders wishing to engage young people in any Programme, Camp or Activity adhere strictly to the instructions and advice given by Government Officials as it relates to the Country's reopening.

Critical Questions:

Should you wish to re-engage and interface with young people, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture encourages you to consider the following:

- Is your organization in a position to facilitate your Programme's objectives while adhering to the three to six feet physical distancing protocols mandated by the Government?
- Is your organization in a position to provide COVID-19 screening for participants, employees and volunteers?
- If you are not able to answer yes to both questions, you should seriously reconsider your readiness to re-emerge and re-engage.
- If you are able to answer yes to both questions, you may proceed with the following re-engagement strategies.

Training and Development

- Virtual COVID-19 Management and Preparedness Training for Youth and Youth Leaders offered by the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture.
- Provision of Best Industry Practices for how to re-engage Youth Programmes and re-connect with youth (ages: 15-24).



Preparedness

- Healthy Hygiene Practices:
 - Hand-washing and covering coughs and sneezes.
 - Use of face coverings.
- Adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviours:
 - Soap
 - Hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol
 - Paper towel
 - Tissue
 - No-touch trash cans.
- Clear and visible posters on how to stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Safe physical distancing (6 feet apart).
- Covering of nose and mouth with a face mask.
- Cleaning and disinfect spaces daily.
- Symptom screening by health practitioner for fever, cough, and shortness of breath.
- Limit group activities.
- Limit sharing of items such as toys, belongings, supplies, and equipment.
- Training on all health and safety protocols.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Develop and implement procedures to check for signs and symptoms in participants, employees and volunteers daily upon arrival, including temperature checks and symptom monitoring.
- Encourage anyone who is sick to stay home.
- Plan for if participants, employees or volunteers get sick.
- Regularly communicate and monitor developments with Government Officials, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures.
- Monitor and evaluate participants, employee and volunteer absences and have substitutes available, and allow flexible scheduling.



COVID-19 Safety Kit

- Every Youth Organization should possess a COVID-19 Safety Kit, which should be adequately stocked at all times. The following items must be included in the COVID 19 safety kit:
 - Masks/Face shields
 - Gloves
 - Hand Soap
 - Hand sanitizers
 - Hand sanitizing stations
 - Disinfectant wipes
 - No-touch trash cans
 - Hand held thermal scanners.

Youth Marching Bands

- Band directors/leaders should provide fun, interactive and innovative training to its membership in COVID-19 protocols.
- Posters and other instructional materials displaying social distancing, handwashing, face coverings, and other prevention methods are recommended.
- A leader should be identified to ensure that the protocols implemented are followed.
- Band members who are not participating/practicing should wear cloth masks at all times.
- Sharing of instruments is not permitted.
- Band members should carefully and thoroughly clean and sanitize instruments before and after every rehearsal/performance.
- All band members should be required to bring their own reusable water containers, as the use of water fountains will not be permitted.
- Band directors should place position markings at least 6ft apart to maintain social distancing.
- Unnecessary physical contact between members is prohibited.
- Band members and leaders must maintain 6ft social distancing at all times.

Youth Concert Bands

- Band directors/leaders should provide fun, interactive and innovative training to its membership in COVID-19 protocols.

- Posters and other instructional materials to show social distancing, handwashing, face coverings, and other prevention methods are recommended.
- A leader should be identified to ensure that the protocols implemented are followed.
- Band members who are not participating should wear masks at all times.
- Sharing of instruments is not permitted.
- All band members should be required to bring their own reusable water containers, as the use of water fountains will not be permitted.
- Band directors should place chairs at least 6ft apart to maintain social distancing.
- Band members and leaders must maintain social distancing at all times.

Note: Indoor rehearsals should only be conducted with a maximum of 30% of the band membership present.

Community, Church & Civic Organizations

- Youth Leaders should provide fun, interactive and innovative training to its membership in COVID-19 protocols and guidelines.
- Posters and other instructional materials to show social distancing, handwashing, face coverings, and other prevention methods are recommended.
- Members should wear cloth mask at all times.
- Each member should be required to bring their own reusable water containers, as the use of water fountains will not be permitted.
- Sharing of items such as toys, books, supplies, devices and other equipment is not permitted.
- Chairs and/or seating should be placed at 6ft apart to maintain social distancing.
- Outdoor activities with strictly enforced social distancing protocols are strongly encouraged.
- Unnecessary physical contact between members is prohibited.
- Field trips and other social events should be suspended.

Contact

Telephone: 1-242-502-0600
 Email: moysc@bahamas.gov.bs
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/youthdivision242

DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS



GUIDELINES

Conduct of sports/recreation activity in a COVID-19 environment is subject to regulations of the Ministry of Health and the Government of The Bahamas. Sporting activities and requirements vary from one sport to another therefore local governing sport organizations *MUST* ensure that specific operating guidelines are in place and published. Such guidelines should comply with the social and health protocols outlined by the Ministry of Health officials and the Government of The Bahamas.

Precaution

- If an athlete presents any symptoms of COVID-19, participation in activities is strictly forbidden. Athlete should return home and seek medical advice.
- Masks should always be worn where practical. For example, not while swimming.
- Frequent hand washing required or application of hand sanitizing solution.
- Minimum 6ft maintained between persons.
- Handshakes, chest bumps, high fives and other celebratory forms of physical contact is not allowed.

Tennis

- Masks should be worn at all times off court.
- Sharing tennis rackets is not allowed.
- Only 4 athletes allowed on court at one time for doubles play or coaching session.
- Pre-Registration required at the Clubhouse prior to starting practice session.
- Only two persons allowed on either side of the practice wall.



Soccer

National Team Training

- Maintain 15 feet between each player.
- Do not share equipment.
- Personal water bottles at all times.
- Contact between players prohibited.
- Only players and coaching staff are permitted to enter the facility (no visitors or guests allowed).
- Rest rooms/ locker rooms to be sanitized before, during and after training sessions.
- Contact sport and competition is not recommended at this time.

Aquatics

- Swimming Pools facilities should be closed until permission granted to reopen by Ministry of Health

Rugby

- Hygiene: Players must wash or sanitize hands before and after each training or competition session.
- Each player must bring their own water bottle, clearly labelled with their name.
- Pre-registration at Club house required for coaches and athletes.
- Wearing a mask is mandatory.
- Use of hand sanitizer required BEFORE each training session.
- Physical Distancing: Minimum 6 feet distance between individuals must be adhered to at all times.
- Frequent use of hand sanitizer will be enforced during sessions.
- Players must not touch equipment, eg. cones and poles markers.
- Directives regarding the manipulation of balls and other sports equipment must be followed at all.



Basketball

- Masks are required to enter the gymnasium facility.
- Individual ball handling drills and shooting permitted only.
- Maintain minimum 6-10 feet between players during session.
- Each player required to bring water bottle for personal use only.
- Training schedules will be from 6:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.
- Athletes will be responsible for ensuring their personal sanitation.

Team Sports

- All team sports should be prohibited during this time.

Gyms

- Gyms should be closed until permission granted to reopen by Ministry of Health.

Contact

Telephone: 1-242-502-0600
Email: moysc@bahamas.gov.bs

DIVISION OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



GUIDELINES

Arts and Cultural Facilities

These protocols provide guidance to museums, art galleries, movie cinemas, theatres, libraries and bookstores. These employers may also benefit from reviewing other protocols if their workplace includes other work environments such as office space, retail services, or food and drink services. Employers must also ensure they are abiding by any orders, notices, or guidance issued by the Ministry of Health and the appropriate health authority, which are relevant to their workplace.

Assessment

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads in several ways, including through droplets when a person coughs or sneezes, and from touching a contaminated surface before touching the face. Higher risk situations require adequate protocols to address the risk.

- The risk of person-to-person transmission is increased the closer you come to other people, the amount of time you spend near them, and the number of people you come near. Physical distancing measures help mitigate this risk.
- The risk of surface transmission is increased when many people contact the same surface, and when those contacts happen in short intervals of time. Effective cleaning and hygiene practices help mitigate this risk.

Selecting Workplace Protocols

Note that different protocols offer different protection. Wherever possible, use the protocols that offer the highest level of protection and add additional protocols as required.

- **First level protection (elimination):** Use policies and procedures to keep people at a safe physical distance from one another. Limit the number of people in your workplace at any one time, and implement protocols to keep workers at least 6 feet from other workers, customers, and members of the public.
- **Second level protection (engineering controls):** If you can't always maintain physical distancing, install barriers such as plexiglass to separate people.

- **Third level protection (administrative controls):** Establish rules and guidelines, such as cleaning protocols, telling workers to not share tools, or implementing one-way doors or walkways.
- **Fourth level protection (PPE):** Use non-medical masks. Be aware of the limitation of non-medical masks to protect the wearer from respiratory droplets. Ensure workers are using masks appropriately.

Museums

- Cancel or restrict group visits, guided tours, public programs, and special or private events in excess of 30 people, in accordance with Ministry of Health regulations on mass gatherings.
- For groups of fewer than 30 people, ensure there is adequate space in your facility to accommodate the group. See the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Protocols for guidance on establishing occupancy limits.
- Appointment Alternatives: Consider allowing access by appointment to ensure occupancy limits are followed.
- Use Online Resources: Consider ways to limit the exchange of paper products. Provide information to visitors via websites, provide online ticket sales, and provide digital visitor guides and programs.
- Physical Distancing Protocols: Manage the flow of people by implementing one-way walkways or marking off designated walking areas.
- Physical Barriers: Provide physical barriers at admissions and gift shop counters. Reuse exhibition materials such as plexiglass display cases to create barriers where the physical distancing requirement cannot be maintained.
- Consider self-guided tours or phone applications based on self-guided tours.
- Customer Call In: Develop a system where customers can call from their cell phones while on the property to get specific questions answered without the customers having to be face-to-face. Install desk phones at stations to facilitate this capability.
- Washing Hands: Wash your hands using good hygiene practices after touching common items.
- Contactless: Install touchless, no-contact audio-visual displays (triggered by physical distance, RFID, or similar technology).
- High Touch Displays: Prohibit the use of high-touch displays through signage or physical barriers. If they remain in use, consider the following controls:
 - i. Install hand sanitizing stations near displays.
 - ii. Increase the cleaning frequency of all touch displays.

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- Access Controls: Control access to entry points for workers, customers, and deliveries. Consider having limited points of entry. If you have more than one door, considering designating doors for entry and exit.
 - Provide hand sanitizing stations at all facility entryways for everyone to use.
 - Post COVID-19 protocols using signage for both workers and customers throughout the facility.
 - Consider creating cohorts of workers who work together and who do not interact with other cohorts. This will assist in reducing transmission throughout the workplace in the event that a staff member becomes ill.
 - Circulation: Increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors.

Art Galleries

- Cancel or restrict group visits, guided tours, public programs, and special or private events in excess of 30 people, in accordance with Ministry of Health regulations on mass gatherings.
- For groups of fewer than 30 people, ensure there is adequate space in your facility to accommodate the group. See the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Protocols for guidance on establishing occupancy limits.
- Appointment Alternatives: Consider allowing access by appointment to ensure occupancy limits are followed.
- Use Online Resources: Consider ways to limit the exchange of paper products. Provide information to visitors via websites, provide online ticket sales, and provide digital visitor guides and programs.
- Physical Distancing Protocols: Manage the flow of people by implementing one-way walkways or marking off designated walking areas.
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 - Access Controls: Control access to entry points for workers, customers, and deliveries. Consider having limited points of entry. If you have more than one door, considering designating doors for entry and exit.
 - Provide hand sanitizing stations at all facility entryways for everyone to use.
 - Post COVID-19 protocols using signage for both workers and customers throughout the facility.
 - Consider creating cohorts of workers who work together and who do not interact with other cohorts. This will assist in reducing transmission throughout the workplace in the event that a staff member becomes ill.
 - Circulation: Increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors.

Movie Cinemas

- Cancel or restrict group visits, guided tours, public programs, and special or private events in excess of 30 people, in accordance with Ministry of Health regulations on mass gatherings.
- For groups of fewer than 30 people, ensure there is adequate space in your facility to accommodate the group. See the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Protocols for guidance on establishing occupancy limits.
- Appointment Alternatives: Consider allowing access by appointment to ensure occupancy limits are followed.
- Use Online Resources: Consider ways to limit the exchange of paper products. Provide information to visitors via websites, provide online ticket sales, and provide digital visitor guides and programs.
- Physical Distancing Protocols: Manage the flow of people by implementing one-way walkways or marking off designated walking areas.
- Physical Barriers: Provide physical barriers at admissions and gift shop counters. Reuse exhibition materials such as plexiglass display cases to create barriers where the physical distancing requirement cannot be maintained.
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 - Provide hand sanitizing stations at all facility entryways for everyone to use.
 - Post COVID-19 protocols using signage for both workers and customers throughout the facility.
 - Consider creating cohorts of workers who work together and who do not interact with other cohorts. This will assist in reducing transmission throughout the workplace in the event that a staff member becomes ill.
 - **Circulation:** Increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors.

Theaters

- Cancel or restrict group visits, guided tours, public programs, and special or private events in excess of 30 people, in accordance with Ministry of Health regulations on mass gatherings.
- For groups of fewer than 30 people, ensure there is adequate space in your facility to accommodate the group. See the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Protocols for guidance on establishing occupancy limits.
- **Appointment Alternatives:** Consider allowing access by appointment to ensure occupancy limits are followed.
- **Use Online Resources:** Consider ways to limit the exchange of paper products. Provide information to visitors via websites, provide online ticket sales, and provide digital visitor guides and programs.
- **Physical Distancing Protocols:** Manage the flow of people by implementing one-

way walkways or marking off designated walking areas.

- **Physical Barriers:** Provide physical barriers at admissions and gift shop counters. Reuse exhibition materials such as plexiglass display cases to create barriers where the physical distancing requirement cannot be maintained.
- Consider self-guided tours or phone applications based on self-guided tours.
- **Customer Call In:** Develop a system where customers can call from their cell phones while on the property to get specific questions answered without the customers having to be face-to-face. Install desk phones at stations to facilitate this capability.
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 - i. Install hand sanitizing stations near displays.
 - ii. Increase the cleaning frequency of all touch displays.
- **Access Controls:** Control access to entry points for workers, customers, and deliveries. Consider having limited points of entry. If you have more than one door, considering designating doors for entry and exit.
- Provide hand sanitizing stations at all facility entryways for everyone to use.
- Post COVID-19 protocols using signage for both workers and customers throughout the facility.
- Consider creating cohorts of workers who work together and who do not interact with other cohorts. This will assist in reducing transmission throughout the workplace in the event that a staff member becomes ill.
- **Circulation:** Increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors.

Libraries

- Establish an occupancy limit for the library or bookstore. See the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Protocols for guidance on establishing occupancy limits. Implement measures to restrict the number of people in the library or bookstore at one time.
- Encourage the use of other services, such as digital libraries and services like virtual ebooks, digital audiobooks, eLending, and eLearning to reduce the number of people in the library or bookstore.

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- Reconfigure interiors and design public areas to maintain the physical distancing requirement for workers and visitors. This may include:
 - i. Reducing the number of computer terminals.
 - ii. Reducing access to spaces.
 - iii. Removing chairs and tables
 - Ensure physical distancing is maintained during programs such as story time or workshops. Consider organizing digital programs.
 - Manage the flow of people by implementing one-way walkways or marking off designated walking areas.
 - Provide physical barriers, such as plexiglass at visitor information desks, and other locations where workers cannot maintain the physical distancing requirement.
 - Control access to entry points for workers, customers, and deliveries. Consider having limited points of entry. If you have more than one door, considering designating doors for entry and exit.
 - Provide hand sanitizing stations at all facility entryways for everyone to use.
 - Post COVID-19 protocols using signage for both workers and customers throughout the facility.
 - Wash your hands using good hygiene practices after touching common items.
 - Consider creating cohorts of workers who work together and who do not interact with other cohorts. This will assist in reducing transmission throughout the workplace in the event that a staff member becomes ill.

Bookstores

- Establish an occupancy limit for the bookstore. See the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Protocols for guidance on establishing occupancy limits. Implement measures to restrict the number of people in the bookstore at one time.
- Encourage the use of other services, such as digital libraries and services like virtual ebooks, digital audiobooks and online purchase to reduce the number of people in the bookstore.
- Reconfigure interiors and design public areas to maintain the physical distancing requirement for workers and visitors. This may include:
 - i. Reducing the number of computer terminals.
 - ii. Reducing access to spaces.
 - iii. Removing chairs and tables
- Ensure physical distancing is maintained. Consider curbside pick-up.
- Manage the flow of people by implementing one-way walkways or marking off



designated walking areas.

- Provide physical barriers, such as plexiglass at visitor information desks, and other locations where workers cannot maintain the physical distancing requirement.
- Control access to entry points for workers, customers, and deliveries. Consider having limited points of entry. If you have more than one door, considering designating doors for entry and exit.
- Provide hand sanitizing stations at all facility entryways for everyone to use.
- Post COVID-19 protocols using signage for both workers and customers throughout the facility.
- Wash your hands using good hygiene practices after touching common items.
- Consider creating cohorts of workers who work together and who do not interact with other cohorts. This will assist in reducing transmission throughout the workplace in the event that a staff member becomes ill.

Studios (Recording, Dance, Photography)

- Establish an occupancy limit. See the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Protocols for guidance on establishing occupancy limits. Implement measures to restrict the number of people inside at one time.
- Reconfigure interiors and design public areas to maintain the physical distancing requirement for workers and visitors. This may include:
 - i. Reducing the number of computer terminals.
 - ii. Reducing access to spaces.
 - iii. Removing chairs and tables
- Manage the flow of people by implementing one-way walkways or marking off designated walking areas.
- Provide physical barriers, such as plexiglass at visitor information desks, and other locations where workers cannot maintain the physical distancing requirement.
- Control access to entry points for workers, customers, and deliveries. Consider having limited points of entry. If you have more than one door, considering designating doors for entry and exit.
- Provide hand sanitizing stations at all facility entryways for everyone to use.
- Post COVID-19 protocols using signage for both workers and customers throughout the facility.
- Wash your hands using good hygiene practices after touching common items.

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- Consider creating cohorts of workers who work together and who do not interact with other cohorts. This will assist in reducing transmission throughout the workplace in the event that a staff member becomes ill.
 - Sanitize area after each session that include different individuals.

Junkanoo Groups

- Cancel or restrict gatherings in accordance with Ministry of Health regulations on mass gatherings.
- Schedule Alternatives: Consider allowing access by appointment to ensure occupancy limits are followed.
- Use Online Resources: Consider ways to limit meetings. Provide information via websites, telephone, social media.
- Physical Distancing Protocols: Manage the flow of people by implementing one-way walkways or marking off designated walking areas.
- Washing Hands,: Wash your hands using good hygiene practices after touching common items.
 - i. Install hand sanitizing stations near displays.
 - ii. Increase the cleaning frequency of all touch displays.
- Post COVID-19 protocols using signage throughout the facility.
- Consider creating cohorts of workers who work together and who do not interact with other cohorts. This will assist in reducing transmission throughout the workplace in the event that a member becomes ill.
- Circulation: Increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors.

Entertainment and Entertainers, Bands and Performances

- Gathering of groups and mass gatherings are prohibited at this time.

Virtual stay safe platforms possible with the permission of the Ministry of Health.

Contact

Telephone: 1-242-502-0600
Email: moysc@bahamas.gov.bs
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Divisionofculture242/

Additional Information

The following links may have additional information, guidance, or resources that may assist you in the development of your plan.

<http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/>

<https://m.facebook.com/MOHBahamas/>

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