

Roadmap to Recovery – Benton & Franklin Counties

Revised August 7, 2020

Update August 7, 2020

Per our discussions yesterday, we are updating this negotiated modified phase 1 approach to include curbside and mail library services, which are outlined in the allowed activities below. These services are allowed to operate as soon as a library can come into compliance with the requirements.

Update July 31, 2020

This is an updated Roadmap to Recovery plan which is a negotiated modified phase 1 approach, different than the modified phase 1 approach in the Safe Start statewide plan. This plan was entered into as a containment strategy given the high rates of COVID-19 that were being experienced in Benton and Franklin Counties when other counties had infection rates that allowed them to advance into other phases. It was entered into only after significant efforts were made to increase the use of face coverings in the community, increased support for COVID-19 prevention and containment efforts by community leaders, and leadership from the business community to help ensure businesses would be fully prepared to re-open in accordance with safe start business guideline. The intent was to open up *some, limited, non-essential services* so Benton and Franklin County residents could receive services in-county (rather than go to other counties where disease rates were significantly less), carefully modify activities so as to not increase disease burden and hospitalizations, and provide some economic stimulus in the local community.

This effort appears to be having a positive effect with disease rates plateauing or decreasing and face covering use increasing based on surveys showing at least 95% of people using face coverings. Given this progress, the Washington State Department of Health and Benton-Franklin Health District have negotiated *some additional, limited number of activities* that may begin as of **Saturday, August 1, 2020**. Those additional activities are highlighted in yellow below.

We applaud the progress being made and know that the use of face coverings, limiting interactions, maintaining physical distancing, and maintaining good hygiene will need to be sustained for progress to continue. The State of Washington stands ready to keep assisting in your progress.

In partnership with local health experts, the Department of Health has developed this specialized plan to get businesses reopened in Benton and Franklin Counties to minimize economic impacts to the region while implementing additional COVID-19 response activities to help offset the risk of transmission in these businesses. The Department of Health is making an exception to the regular “Safe Start” process due to the high level of COVID-19 activity in these counties and the negative economic impacts to these communities for remaining in phase 1 for a prolonged time period.

This plan allows Benton and Franklin counties to reopen some businesses if the counties begin immediate implementation of new activities to augment their response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the week of June 29, 2020, the counties must continue or begin implementation of all the activities in the below table to augment their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The counties will send weekly progress reports to the Department of Health to discuss progress in implementing the new response activities until hospitalizations for COVID-19 decline in their community.

Individuals Response Measures	Required Activities to Address the COVID-19 Pandemic
Community masking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Require masks in all businesses - Continue distribution of masks to the public - Further develop local campaigns to communicate about the importance of mask and other individual community mitigation strategies - Perform a survey to assess mask use in several cities in the counties every other week - Law enforcement to encourage masking <p>BF: Needs \$15K/month for a paid advertising campaign through radio, TV and newspaper in both English and Spanish; Gov should require masking in businesses in BF (better enforcement)</p>
No gatherings with people outside the household	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further develop local campaigns to communicate about the importance of mask and other individual community mitigation strategies - Regularly communicate with the public via press conferences and other means to remind the public not to hold gatherings - Encourage law enforcement to provide education to large groups that are gathered in the community to re-establish a norm in the community - Require law enforcement to decrease communications about not enforcing proclamations <p>State communication about not traveling State to convene joint regional call with health departments and regional law enforcement; educational materials for LE to hand out</p>
Public Health Response Measures	Required Activities
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communicate with your healthcare providers and the public about the need to test everyone with symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild, and all asymptomatic people with high risk of exposure including all household and other close contacts of cases, and persons exposed in outbreak settings - Establish additional drive thru test sites in the county - Distribute educational materials and masks at all drive thru test sites <p>BF: needs 2-4 more test sites (Could arrive week of July 6th) State will contract with PNNL/WADDL</p>
Case/contact investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure healthcare partners are educating patient about isolation and quarantine when specimens are getting collected - Build capacity locally to do case / contact investigations (goal is 15 FTE / 100,000) <p>BF: DOH will do all case / contact investigations BF: Needs ~45 staff to do case/contact investigations</p>
Case/contact management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish mechanism for DOH case/contact investigators to communicate patient needs to local health jurisdiction staff - Dedicate core staff to provide wrap around services to cases and contact in isolation and quarantine - Use incentives to keep individuals in isolation and quarantine - Track services provided to review with DOH at weekly meetings <p>BF: Need 5 Case Managers and 2 Health Services Workers for support and ~\$1M for incentives</p>
Infection prevention and outbreak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Require all businesses to sign a business pledge that they will follow all COVID-19 guidance and submit a plan to their respective county prior to opening. - Require LHM to look for COVID-19 measures during routine inspections of restaurants - Dedicate core staff to outbreak prevention and response activities

response in general businesses	BF: the counties and DOH agreed that plans do not need to be reviewed or approved, but do need to be collected by the counties. Business owners to post their plans at the business main point of entry for customers to see.
Infection prevention and outbreak response in the agricultural industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regularly convene or communicate with agricultural industry to ensure businesses are following state DOH and L&I guidance - Establish mechanism for DOH case/contact investigators to notify local health jurisdiction staff of agricultural workers with COVID-19 - Follow DOH guidance when investigating potential outbreaks in agricultural businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Visit agricultural businesses when a case is identified and perform an outbreak investigation. o If an outbreak is detected (2 or more cases), test all staff and employees to identify both symptomatic and asymptomatic persons within the building or site and make site specific isolation and quarantine orders. o If a single member of a housing unit or group shelter tests positive, test the entire group shelter. <p>L&I needs to continue focused visits in the area (current visits only represent a portion of the businesses in the area) DOH will inspect more housing units State needs to amend Safe Start Plan to make businesses legally required to comply with public health</p>
Infection prevention and outbreak response in LTCFs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regularly convene or communicate with long term care facilities to ensure they are following state guidance and have the supplies they need - Complete point prevalence testing at long term care facilities - Implement weekly testing of staff <p>Need a statewide standing order for testing</p>
Health Care Response	
Hospital capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Counties must have 20% surge capacity in hospitals, including ICUs, prior to opening. - Counties must have adequate capacity to transport patients outside of the county if their hospitals and/or ICU becomes overwhelmed

After the Governor’s Press Conference on July 2, 2020 and as decided by each county, the following businesses may reopen under the following parameters if adequate progress is made on the above required activities:

- a. Construction as permitted in Phase 2 guidance. (new construction projects can occur)
- b. Manufacturing as permitted in Phase 2 guidance. (non-essential manufacturing)
- c. Restaurants/Wineries/Breweries/Bars for outdoor seating only with proper distancing and operating according to State Department of Health guidelines. Only members of the same household may be seated together. See guidelines for restaurant, tavern, breweries, wineries and distilleries here: <https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/COVID19%20Phase%20%20and%203%20Restaurant%20and%20Tavern%20Guidance.pdf> and note that indoor seating is NOT allowed in Yakima County at this time and that outdoor seating at a table is limited to household members only. Also note that alcohol service at all establishments must end no later than 10pm..
- d. In-store retail at 25% indoor capacity with indoor activities limited to 30 min.
- e. Drive-In Movies. Only members of the same household may be in the same car. Concessions, if sold, must be ordered from the car and must be delivered to the car by servers wearing face coverings, and occupants of the vehicle wearing a face covering when the food is delivered.

- f. Regulated pools may open with a supervisor of the pool present whenever it is open for use. Authorized operations include appointment-only lap swimming, one-on-one lessons, and small group classes (groups of 5 or less) at general use swimming pools only (e.g., athletic club pools and municipal pools) as defined in WAC 246-260-010(34) and WAC 246-260-010(74). General use spas, general use wading pools, general use spray pools, limited use pools as defined in WAC 246-260, and any recreational water contact facility regulated under WAC 246-262 are not included in this authorization at this time.
- g. Personal services at 25% indoor capacity
- h. Dog groomers at 25% indoor capacity
- i. Outdoor spiritual gatherings with open-air tents/canopies (no walls).
- j. No gatherings with people outside of the household except for small behavioral health (includes mental health and substance use) support groups of ≤ 5 people. Masking and social distancing must be practiced.
- k. Curbside and mailed library services are permitting in accordance with the Phase 2 Curbside Library Services COVID-19 Requirements found at:
https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/COVID19Phase2LibrariesGuidance.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Benton and Franklin needs to focus on the public health goal of decreasing hospitalizations for COVID-19. This metric will be monitored over the course of implementing this plan. If hospitalizations for COVID-19 significantly increase throughout the course of implementing this plan, the state will consider a strict lock down of the county, including closure of nearly all businesses.