



Safer at Home

BODY ART

COVID-19 REOPENING GUIDANCE

GOVERNOR'S ECONOMIC REOPENING TASKFORCE



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Safeguarding Guidance:

The intent of these recommendations is to reduce transmission of COVID-19 among practitioners and clients; support healthy business operations; and maintain a healthy work environment.

In addition to strict adherence to [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), [Equal Employment Opportunity Commission \(EEOC\)](#) and [Occupational Safety and Health Administration \(OSHA\)](#) guidance, and [US Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#) the State of New Hampshire recommends policies and procedures to protect consumers and employees, including:

General Guidance to Protect Employees and Consumers:

1. Review and follow the [Universal Guidelines](#) for All New Hampshire Employers and Employees.
2. Review and follow CDC [guidance for businesses and employers](#).
3. Review and follow CDC [guidance for cleaning and disinfection](#).
4. All clients MUST wear a cloth face covering over the nose and mouth when within the establishment. If the client does not have a cloth face covering, the practitioner will provide a mask to the client. Cloth face masks/coverings must be worn and managed according to CDC guidance about [use of cloth face coverings](#).
5. All staff MUST wear a cloth face covering over the nose and mouth at all times when within the establishment, even when alone in client service areas (e.g. cleaning and disinfecting after services).
 - a. Cloth face masks/coverings must be worn and managed according to CDC guidance about [use of cloth face coverings](#).
 - b. Review also the NH DHHS information about [using cloth face coverings](#).
6. Staff and clients wearing face coverings must not touch their eyes, nose, mouth, or face, or adjust their face mask without first sanitizing hands. After touching face or adjusting mask, hands must be sanitized.
7. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer must be made readily available at the reception area and client service areas for frequent use by both staff and clients.
8. Staff must be provided education and training around safe practices as it relates to hygiene, cloth face covering use, social distancing, sanitation (cleaning and disinfection policies), and illness policies outlined in the [Universal Guidelines](#) and in this document.
9. Clients must be informed of these new policies and procedures and provided instructions on hand hygiene, cloth face covering use, social distancing, sanitation (cleaning and disinfection policies), and illness policies.
10. Require all staff to report any symptoms of COVID-19 or close contact to a person with COVID-19 to a supervisor. Staff and members should not be present in the facility if they feel sick.



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11. Staff and clients should be screened before each shift (for staff), and before the appointment (for clients) by asking if the individual:
 - a. Has any symptoms of COVID-19 (see [Universal Guidelines](#) for list of potential symptoms) or fever of 100.4 degrees F or higher.
 - b. Has had any close contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 in the past 14 days. (**NOTE:** Healthcare workers caring for COVID-19 patients while wearing appropriate personal protective equipment should answer “no” to this question)
 - c. Traveled in the past 14 days either:
 - i. Internationally (outside the U.S.),
 - ii. By cruise ship, or
 - iii. Domestically (within the U.S.) outside of NH, VT, or ME on public transportation (e.g., bus, train, plane, etc.).
12. Person(s) with any COVID-19 symptoms, those who report close contact with someone suspected or confirmed with COVID-19, or those reporting travel risk factors should **not** be allowed into the facility:
 - a. Symptomatic persons should be instructed to contact their health care provider to be tested for COVID-19 and [self-isolate](#) at home following the instructions below.
 - b. Asymptomatic persons reporting close contact with someone suspected or confirmed with COVID-19, or who report one of the traveled-related risk factors should [self-quarantine](#) for 14 days from their last exposure or return from travel.
 - c. **NOTE:** Healthcare workers caring for COVID-19 patients while wearing appropriate personal protective equipment should answer “no” to this question
13. Person(s) with suspect or confirmed COVID-19 must stay home until symptom-based criteria are met for [discontinuation of isolation](#):
 - a. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
AND
 - b. At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (recovery is defined as resolution of fever off any fever reducing medications plus improvement in other symptoms)
14. Staff and clients must maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from others in the establishment at all times except for when staff are providing body art services.
15. Businesses should consider recommending that staff take a course covering COVID-19 specific prevention.
16. Businesses must update the exposure control plan (ECP) when adding new protocols and training for staff.
17. Businesses must perform biological spore testing and any manufacturer-suggested maintenance on all autoclaves upon reopening, if applicable.
18. Facilities should evaluate their building ventilation system and engineering controls to increase room and overall building ventilation, increase the number of air exchanges, increase outdoor air ventilation, limit internal air circulation, improve



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central air filtration to the highest compatible with the filter rack and seal edges of the filter to limit bypass, and routinely replace filters and perform other necessary maintenance.

314-A:1 Definitions:

- I. "Body piercing" means the creation of an opening in human tissue, except piercing of the ear lobe, through which jewelry or other items are inserted.
- II. "Branding" means a permanent mark made on human tissue by burning with a hot iron or other instrument, excluding laser burning.
- III. "Executive director" means the executive director of the office of professional licensure and certification.
- IV. "Practitioner" means a person who practices tattooing, body piercing, or branding.
- V. "Tattoo" means an indelible mark or figure fixed upon the surface of the body by the insertion of pigment under the skin or by the production of scars.

Business Process Adaptations:

Authorized Services

1. Body Art Practitioners may provide all services within their scope of practice.

Reception, Scheduling, and Receiving

2. A maximum of no more than seven (7) work stations per 1000 square feet is allowed at the facility at any time (possibly fewer depending on the size of the salon and ability to maintain at least 6 feet of distance between clients at all times), PLUS the number of clients should not exceed the number of staff. For example, in a small establishment with one staff member performing tattoo or piercing, the maximum number of people allowed in the establishment at any one time is two (one staff and one client).
3. Clients must receive pre-visit remote consultations within 24 hours prior to their appointment to screen for symptoms of COVID-19, recent travel, or close contact to any person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 in the prior 14 days. Standard screening questions are outlined above and in the [Universal Guidelines](#).
4. Clients must be scheduled by appointment only either online or by phone. No walk-in appointments are permitted.
5. Businesses must stagger appointments so only one person is arriving at a time and clients do not interact.
6. Clients must wait outside of the studio with proper social distancing or in their car until the business alerts them to enter. There should not be any waiting lines given scheduled and staggered appointments. Waiting areas should be closed to avoid congregating, and clients must be brought directly to the work area.
7. Businesses must create and post signage informing clients about policies and procedures. Signage must be posted on the front door or in the business lobby, at a minimum.



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8. There must be sufficient time between clients in order to complete cleaning and disinfection procedures.
9. Businesses should ask clients to complete consent forms informing about risks of infection (including COVID-19) ideally via email or online before their appointment. Alternatively, businesses can use a digital device in person that can be sanitized after obtaining client signature and consent, or use a paper consent form as a last resort.
10. Practitioners should consider using electronic or no-contact methods of payment for services when possible.
11. Businesses should consider providing physical barriers to protect clients and staff such as partitions or Plexiglass barriers.
12. Businesses must remove unnecessary clutter or items. This includes coffee and snack stations.
13. Clients are not permitted to eat, drink, smoke, or vape while in the establishment.
14. Staff should change into work clothing at the start of each shift, and change out of work clothing after scheduled shift and before leaving establishment. Worn work clothing should be transported in a plastic bag and laundered normally.
15. No physical contact is allowed with clients that is not necessary to provide services (e.g. no shaking hands or hugging).
16. Businesses should consider using video conferencing or email for troubleshooting, aftercare questions, and consultations.
17. Staff must frequently perform hand hygiene by either washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or using an alcohol based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. This includes (but is not limited to) hand hygiene before and after eating, before and after smoking and using the restroom, before and after providing services to a client, before donning and after doffing gloves.
18. Businesses must provide hand sanitizer for client use.
19. For contract tracing purposes, businesses must maintain a record of clients receiving services, the date and time of those services, and the identities of staff who had direct interaction with clients receiving services.

Work Station

1. Practitioners must manage one client at a time.
2. Businesses must ensure work stations are at least 6 feet apart; more distance is preferable. Ideally work stations should be in separate rooms or separated by barriers or partitions.
3. Staff must check the expiration dates of all bottles, needles, and tubes, prior to starting a shift. Staff must properly discard all expired, disposable items.
4. Staff must ensure that all bottles (including ink bottles), jars, and containers not in use are closed tightly.



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5. Staff must store properly disinfected implements in closed containers that have also been disinfected.
6. Businesses should consider using HEPA air filtration systems in procedure rooms.
7. Staff must remove extra items from the work stations that are not in use.
8. Staff must cover any item on a work station with a barrier during a procedure, and clean and disinfect the item after each procedure.
9. Staff must store paper towels inside a cabinet or storage container that is routinely cleaned and disinfected.
10. Staff must ensure that single use (porous items) are new.
11. Body art practitioners must wear a cloth face covering, face shield or medical safety glasses/goggles, and gloves while providing all body art services. All face shields and medical safety glasses/goggles must be disinfected after each client.
12. Hand hygiene should be performed before and after donning and doffing gloves.
13. Practitioners must place all paper towels out before the procedure begins. Any paper towels remaining in the work station at the end of the procedure must be disposed of, whether or not used.
14. At the end of each procedure, practitioners must dispose of all single-use items in a trash bag. Trash must be placed in the proper trash receptacle.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

1. Clean and disinfect all surfaces, tables, chairs, medical safety glasses/goggles, other used equipment, workstations, and common areas between each client. Cleaning and disinfection should follow CDC [guidance for cleaning and disinfecting your facility](#), including the following:
 - a. Use disposable gloves to clean and disinfect. Cleaning reduces the number of germs, dirt and impurities on a surface. Disinfecting kills germs on surfaces.
 - b. Use an [EPA-approved disinfectant](#) to disinfect anything the client came in contact with, including treatment table, face cradle, stool, bolsters, door knobs, side tables, chairs, etc. and follow manufacturer's instructions for cleaning and disinfecting. Observe the complete contact time for disinfectant on manufacturers label.
 - c. Hard (Non-Porous) Surfaces: If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection. For disinfection, [use EPA-approved disinfectants](#) for use against the virus that causes COVID-19.
 - d. Linens, Clothing, towels, and Other Items That Go in the Laundry: Clean and dirty linens will be stored in separate closed containers. Do not shake dirty laundry. Remove all linens, blankets, and table setups. Launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and dry items completely.



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2. Businesses must develop and implement a safety and cleaning/disinfection protocol per CDC guidelines, to be performed daily and in between clients.
 - a. Clean and disinfect point-of-sale (POS) terminals after each use.
 - b. Clean and disinfect reception counter, door handles, cabinets, and display cases at the beginning of the day and after every use.
 - c. Clean and disinfect all portfolios before and after client use or, if not possible, use a website or online platform to display portfolios.
 - d. Routinely and frequently clean and disinfect work stations, especially between client use.
 - e. Clean and disinfect all non-porous implements used in the services, as required by all states before and after each use on a client.
 - f. Clean and disinfect all regularly used surfaces, such as countertops, pens, tablets, bathrooms, and door handles between clients.
 - g. Clean and disinfect tables, chairs, and headrests before and after each client.
 - h. Clean and disinfect all work stations, rolling carts, drawers, and any containers used for storage before and after each use.
 - i. Staff must clean and disinfect floors daily.

Restroom Area

1. Staff must regularly clean and disinfect all surfaces in the restroom.
2. Businesses should consider upgrading to touchless faucets, soap and paper towel dispensers in the restroom.
3. Businesses must place trash container near the door in the restroom.
4. Businesses must remove any products that do not belong in the restroom.
5. Businesses must ensure soap dispensers in the restroom are regularly filled.
6. Businesses must place signage in the restroom detailing the proper method of hand washing.

