

JAY INSLEE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
Office of the Governor

TO: Interested Stakeholders

FROM: Governor Jay Inslee

DATE: July 9, 2020

SUBJECT: Clarifying Restaurant and Tavern Rules – Proclamations 20-25 and 20-25.4

This memorandum serves to clarify Phase 2 and Phase 3 restaurant and tavern rules and is effective June 25, 2020.

- a) **Bar-style seating and live music are hereby prohibited in Phase 2 and Phase 3.**
- b) Restaurants and taverns in Phase 2 or beyond are now permitted to resume self-service buffets, salad bars, salsa bars, and other similar communal food sources and drink stations, subject to the business:
 - 1) Strictly complying with all Phase 2 and Phase 3 restaurant requirements;
 - 2) Ensuring the use of antimicrobial hand sanitizer by customers before and after handling serving utensils;
 - 3) Installing permanent barriers, such as sneeze guards, to protect food; and
 - 4) Monitoring the communal food and beverage areas to ensure that customers maintain physical distancing and all other rules.

This memorandum stands in the place of any omission from and supersedes any conflicting provision in [Proclamation 20-25](#)'s Appendix, "Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers," the Governor's May 11, 2020, memorandum entitled "Partially Resuming the Dine-In Restaurant and Tavern Industry," and the [Governor's Safe Start Plan](#).

This memorandum does not relieve any business or individual from following all face covering requirements contained in [Proclamation 20-25.4](#), [Secretary of Health's Order 20-23](#), and other relevant documents.

The activities described in this memorandum may resume immediately if:

- a) **Businesses can meet and maintain all requirements, including providing materials, and equipment needed to comply; and**

- b) **Businesses conduct only those operations that are permitted under their county's phase status.**
- **General questions about how to comply with safety practices** can be submitted to the state's Business Response Center at <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/how-you-can-help/covid-19-business-and-worker-inquiries>.
 - **All other violations related to Proclamation 20-25** can be submitted at <https://bit.ly/covid-compliance>.