

Theaters (movie theaters, live performance theaters)

Approved Variance to Colorado Public Health Order 20-28- June 11, 2020

Variance

The State of Colorado has issued a variance approval to Public Health Order 20-28. This variance approval is in effect until the final expiration of the PHO 20-28. The variance for Theaters requires:

- In order to achieve 6 feet social distancing, the limit is 50% of the posted occupancy code limit ensuring a minimum of 28 square feet per person not to exceed more than 100 people at any given time in a confined indoor space, and 175 people in any outdoor setting.
- Each group of patrons must be seated together and at least 6 feet from other groups. No groups larger than 8 may be seated together.
- Employees must be present in each theater room to ensure that proper physical/social distancing protocol is enforced.
- Seats, armrest, handrails, doors, doorknobs, and door handles in each theater must be thoroughly disinfected before and after each show.
- Tape must be applied to floors at ticket counters and concession stands to enforce proper physical/social distancing protocol for patrons who are waiting in line.
- Restrooms must be cleaned and disinfected regularly, and frequently contacted surfaces must be cleaned no less than once per hour.
- If food is served, the facility must follow the current PH 20-28 Orders as amended for restaurants.
- Play areas, arcade rooms, or other group areas other than theater rooms must remain closed.
- Intermission activities should not occur.
- Patrons must wear a face covering.
- Symptom screening upon arrival to work, and face mask requirements for employees. Depending on the business sector all guidelines for that business type must be followed.
- Post clear signage notifying participants and employees of hygiene and sanitation expectations as well as social distancing.
- Employees who are symptomatic must be excluded from the workplace and required to isolate for 10 days. They should be encouraged to get tested for COVID-19 either through a local provider or Pueblo County's community wide testing.
- If there is a confirmed case among patrons or employees, the facility must notify and cooperate with the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment.
- In all other respects, the requirements of the Safer at Home Public Health Order 20-28, as amended, remain in effect for Pueblo County.

Note: If the current public health order or subsequent amendments to that order should change in which more restrictions are lifted theaters may immediately begin to modify their operations to be in compliance with the most recent public health order.

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Outbreaks

Pueblo County has identified the following specific data triggers related to outbreaks connected to theaters:

- If 2 or more staff or customers test positive within 14 days and the outbreak is determined to be connected or possibly connected to the facility, the establishment must return to the requirements of the current State public health order unless the following action is taken:
 - Close place of establishment to public for 72 hours.
 - Deep clean facilities.
 - Notify customers and staff of outbreak.
 - Provide employee and customer list to public health for case investigation and contact tracing.
 - Work with the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment regarding plans to reopen.
- If multiple outbreaks occur at establishment, return to the requirements of the current State public health order unless the following action is taken:
 - Close location for 7 days.
 - Deep clean common areas and facilities.
 - Notify the public of the outbreak.
 - Provide participant list to public health for case investigation and contact tracing.
 - Work with the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment regarding plans to reopen.

Variance Alteration and Rescission

- If Pueblo County reports more than 84 new COVID-19 cases in a 2-week period (2-week incidence of 51 per 100,000) has occurred, the Pueblo Department of Public Health will initiate the following alteration process:
 - Implement a mitigation plan for 2 weeks to try to restore virus transmission levels to baseline under which the variance was approved.
 - If after 2 weeks the levels are not restored, then the capacity limits are automatically adjusted to reflect the CDPHE guidelines.
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment reserve the right to modify or rescind this variance approval as circumstances warrant.

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