



February 16, 2021

The Pursuit NW  
265 Pine Ave.  
Snohomish, WA 98290

The Snohomish Health District has received further complaints from the community, and we have reason to believe that The Pursuit NW continues to neglect following Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-25.4 and associated COVID-19 requirements for safe operation of religious and faith-based services.

In brief summary, the state requirements currently include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Limited to 25 percent of indoor occupancy limits, or no more than 200 people, whichever is fewer.
- Cloth face coverings for congregation members/attendees.
- Permits live music and performances so long as individuals wear face coverings and adhere to physical distancing requirements.
- Permits up to one individual at a time to speak during a service without a face covering.
- Permits up to two households to sit as group in Phase 1 outdoor services and Phase 2 indoor and outdoor services.
- Maintenance of a minimum six-foot separation between all persons in all interaction and at all times.
- Live music and performances
  - Choirs and Congregational Singing: Choirs with up to 15 singers are permitted to sing indoors during the service so long as each singer maintains 9 feet (12 feet is encouraged) of physical distancing and wears a three-layer surgical mask. For religious organizations without a choir or with a choir of fewer than 15 singers, congregants and staff are permitted to sing so long as the total number of people singing does not exceed 15 and all those singing adhere to the 9 feet (12 feet is encouraged) of physical distancing and three layer surgical masking requirements. Choirs in excess of 15 individuals and the entire congregation are permitted to sing outdoors provided that all singers maintain 9 feet (12 feet is encouraged) of physical distancing and wear a three-layer surgical mask.
  - Soloist singers are permitted to sing during the service without a mask provided that the individual maintains 15 feet of physical distancing.
  - The performance of woodwind and brass instruments is permitted during the service so long as the performer(s) maintain 9 feet (12 feet is encouraged) of physical distancing and use bell covers. Woodwind and brass performers are permitted to remove their masks during their performance.
  - Musical ensembles and other disciplines of performing arts are permitted to perform during the service so long as all of the discipline-specific requirements outlined in the "Theater and Performing Arts" guidance document are followed.

- Compliance with the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries General Requirements and Prevention Ideas for Workplaces and the Washington State Department of Health Workplace and Employer Resources & Recommendations
- A comprehensive COVID-19 exposure control, mitigation and recovery plan.

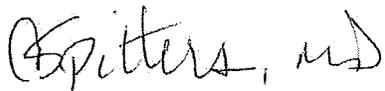
A previous Health Officer's Order was sent to this address on September 25, 2020. Staff from the Health District attempted to reach you on January 11, 2021, to collect additional information regarding a case in your child care and you failed to respond. We also filed a complaint with the state on 12/08/2020, when initial complaints were brought to the Health District. We have again filed a complaint with the state based on new concerns raised by the community.

Please note that any person willfully violating any provision of an order issued by the governor pursuant to a proclaimed state of emergency is guilty of a gross misdemeanor (RCW 43.06.220[5]). Furthermore, not complying with these requirements could expose you to liability for damages alleged by an aggrieved attendee and could affect your liability insurer's willingness to cover your facility.

Above all, these measures are essential to protecting the health of your employees and congregation. With confirmed cases of the B.1.1.7 variant locally, it is more important than ever for the community to follow public health prevention guidance like mandatory masks and physical distance of at least 6' when near people from outside the household. We are seeking your partnership in helping to prevent further transmission of COVID-19 in Snohomish County.

If you have questions regarding these requirements, please contact Clara Ruiz at [Complaints@snohd.org](mailto:Complaints@snohd.org) or 425-339-8670

Sincerely,



Christopher Spitters, MD, MPH  
Health Officer

Cc: Washington State Office of the Attorney General  
Mayor John Kartak, City of Snohomish  
City Administrator Steve Schuller, City of Snohomish  
Safe Start Violation complaint (<https://coronavirus.wa.gov/report-safe-start-violation>)

Attachments:

COVID-19 Requirements  
Face Coverings Proclamation