



# Guidance for Re-Opening During COVID-19 Recovery

Public Health  
Environmental Health Services

## Body Art Facilities

For body art facilities to safely re-open during the COVID-19 pandemic, implement operational best practices, maintain social distancing, maintain compliance with the CA Health and Safety Code, and utilize the following guidance.



### Disinfection Plan and Oversight

- Complete the San Bernardino County Body Art Safety Plan and make available to customer upon request. In the plan, describe how the measures in this guidance will be met.
- Designate a responsible person who will evaluate, implement and make sure your Body Art Safety Plan is being followed.
- Use EPA registered disinfectant effective against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).
- Disinfect restrooms, waiting areas, and other common/high touch areas frequently or after each use.
- Develop and implement a cleaning and disinfection schedule.



### Education

- Post signage at each public entrance of the facility to inform employees and customers that they are not to enter the facility if they, or household/family member are sick or have COVID-19 like symptoms such as fever, dry cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, etc.
- Post signage to notify customers that face coverings are required when social distancing is not possible.
- Train employees, including practitioners, on social distancing and new sanitation measures. Provide a copy of the completed Body Art Safety Plan to each employee and make it available to customers upon request.
- Notify employees not to share food or beverages. Avoid handshakes and similar physical contact-type greeting.



### Protection of Health

- Ensure employees have been told not to come to work if they are sick.
- Conduct thermal or temperature scans of employees.
- Conduct a health survey with each employee prior to the beginning of each shift that asks:
  - Are you ill or have you experienced symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within the past 7 days?
  - Do you have a household/family member that has or had a fever within the past 14 days?
  - Have you had close contact with someone who is known to have COVID-19 with the past 14 days?



- Employees with COVID-19 symptoms are not allowed to work and are encouraged to contact their medical provider.
- Establish a customer self-certification checklist that certifies they are free of COVID-19 related symptoms before having a procedure performed. Consider also asking the customer to take their temperature prior to the procedure to ensure they do not have a fever. A sample supplemental COVID-19 medical questionnaire is available in the Body Art Safety Plan on the [body art webpage](#).
- Face coverings must be worn by all employee at all times. During procedures, workers should also consider wearing a face shield for eye protection (with a face covering), if available.
- Customers must wear face coverings during the entirety of the tattooing or piercing service.
- Employees, including practitioners, must frequently wash their hands with soap and warm water.
- Provide hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) for use by employees and customers, in addition to handwashing.
- Disposable gloves are required throughout the tattooing or piercing service, and while performing cleaning and disinfection surfaces and used during the customer session.
- Suspend piercing and tattooing services for the mouth/nose area.



## Social Distancing

- Limit people inside the facility to employees, practitioners, and customers. Practitioners should provide tattooing or piercing services for only one customer at a time.
- Limit the number of customers so there is at least a 6 foot separation between workstations during each procedure. Schedule appointments with enough time in between each client to fully disinfect all contact surfaces in the procedure area, restroom, and common areas (i.e. lobby).
- Encourage customers to wait in their cars until their practitioner is ready to perform the procedure, rather than waiting inside the facility.
- If applicable, place tape or other markings at least 6 feet apart in customer waiting areas with signs directing customers to use the marking to maintain social distancing.
- Provide a physical barrier (non-absorbent walls, large plexiglass installations, etc.) between workstations to provide protection when 6 feet social distancing is not possible.
- Leverage technology such as video conferencing to conduct consultations virtually, rather than in person.



## Minimize Contact

- Avoid piercing or tattooing of the nose, mouth or lips until COVID-19 precautions are no longer required.
- Keep the facility well ventilated for increased exchange of outside air and/use CDC recommended air filtration.
- Provide contactless payment systems or, if not feasible, disinfect payment systems regularly.
- Prohibit talking on cell phones while procedures are being conducted.
- Conduct procedures by appointment only.
- Place tape or other markings 6 feet apart where lines might form, such as the restroom.



## For More Information

**For questions specific to  
body art facilities:**

Call or text (800) 442-2283  
or visit  
[wp.sbcounty.gov/dph/ehs](http://wp.sbcounty.gov/dph/ehs)

**For questions specific to COVID-19:**

Email:  
[coronavirus@dph.sbcounty.gov](mailto:coronavirus@dph.sbcounty.gov)  
Call: (909) 387-3911  
(Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.)  
or visit:  
[sbccovid19.com](http://sbccovid19.com)

**References:**

- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH): [CDPH.ca.gov/covid19](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/covid19)

