



Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Asa Hutchinson
José R. Romero, MD, Secretary of Health

Effective date: May 6, 2020

Phase 2 Effective date: June 15, 2020.

Modified February 26, 2021: Limit capacity of stations in use based on safe spacing, convert to Guidance

Revision converting mask requirement to guidance, effective April 1, 2021

Guidance for Barber Shops, Body Art Establishments, Cosmetology Establishments, Massage Therapy Clinics/Spas, and Medical Spas

The Secretary of Health, in consultation with the Governor, has sole authority over all instances of quarantine, isolation, and restrictions on commerce and travel throughout Arkansas, as necessary and appropriate to control disease in the state of Arkansas as authorized by Ark. Code Ann. §20-7-109--110. Community spread of COVID-19 remains active within the State. Therefore, the Arkansas Department of Health makes the following recommendations for how to best prevent transmission of COVID-19.

On March 23, 2020, the Secretary of Health, in conjunction with the Governor, issued a directive that Barber Shops, Body Art Establishments, Body Art Schools, Cosmetology Establishments, Massage Therapy Clinics/Spas, and Medical Spas should close for in-person operations. The original directive outlined the conditions required to safely reopen these entities during Phase 1; the next revision loosened some requirements on number of clients permitted during Phase 2. As of February 26, 2021, the directive was converted to Guidance.

- Providers may now resume attending walk-in clients as well as those scheduled by appointment. Adequate time in between appointments should be maintained to properly clean and disinfect.
- Vulnerable populations (i.e., those persons over the age of 65 or with chronic medical conditions) should receive a COVID-19 vaccine when eligible and continue to avoid unnecessary out of home exposure. When they do need to leave home, all should continue to adhere to protective measures such as wearing face coverings, maintaining physical distancing, and hand washing.
- Clients should be pre-screened for potential COVID-related symptoms prior to arrival for the appointment using the following questions:
 - *Have you had a fever of 100.4°F or greater in the last 2 days?*

- *Do you have a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat or loss of taste or smell?*
- *Have you had contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 within the past 14 days?*

Those answering “yes” to any of the above should have their services postponed for 14 days.

- Walk-in clients should undergo the same screening at the door upon arrival.
- Employees/licensees should be pre-screened with both the standardized questionnaire and a daily temperature check. Any employee with a temperature of 100.4°F or greater should not be allowed to work.
- Services should not be performed on clients who show any sign of illness such as fever, cough, or runny nose. Signage should be posted informing clients about this policy.
- All persons in the salon/shop/clinic should maintain physical distancing of at least six (6) ft while services are not being rendered. Occupancy will no longer be limited to 10 persons, but the number of people present should be limited in order to maintain the six (6) feet of physical distancing, including all support staff.
- In smaller facilities, the six (6) feet physical distancing condition may necessitate that fewer than 10 persons are present at any given time.
- Larger facilities (able to accommodate more than 10 persons while maintaining appropriate physical distancing) should limit the number of stations in operation to only those that can be operated while maintaining six (6) feet physical distancing between those occupying or working at adjacent stations.
- Barbers, stylists, and employees should wear a face covering at all times. A cloth face covering is acceptable for this purpose. See [Face Coverings Guidance](#) for more information.
- Clients should wear masks as services permit. A cloth face covering is acceptable for this purpose. Signage should be posted informing clients about this policy.
- Waiting area chairs should be positioned to ensure six (6) feet of social distancing. When possible, clients should wait outside of the shop/salon/clinic until called by their stylist/therapist.
- All existing infection control rules remain in effect and will be enforced. Non-porous surfaces shall be cleaned and disinfected prior to use. Porous items shall be discarded after a single use.
- Gloves shall be worn for all services as required by Rule. Licensees are encouraged to wear gloves for all other services when able.
- Handwashing should be performed before and after each service.

Practitioners should maintain a record of the name, date, and contact information, for each client serviced for a period of one month. This may be accomplished using a sign-in sheet.