

Phase III Guidelines for Adult Classes

This document describes procedures for resuming adult classes in a phased approach in accordance with the Reopening RI established guidelines.

In addition to the sector-specific guidance outlined here, all businesses are required to comply with the phase III general guidance document available at: www.reopeningri.com.

Summary of Phase III Operations

In Phase III, adult learning should be in person, when safe for learners, to ensure they are receiving the highest quality adult education. Virtual learning will continue to be a component of adult education to accommodate those that cannot attend in person due to health concerns or as a secondary offering due to limited classroom sizes.

This guidance includes guidelines, recommendations, and requirements that will assist instructors in following the general business guidance that is required of all establishments. Establishments are reminded that these guidelines will continue to be updated as additional activities are permitted in future phases of the reopening and in accordance with updates to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) regulations and guidance. Guidance for specific settings on the www.reopeningri.com website should be followed for training classes within that workplace sector.

Guidance for In-person Classes

- Instructors are reminded of the State's general guidance regarding physical distancing which provides that all persons should remain at least six (6) feet apart at all times. If this is not feasible, individuals must minimize the time of exposure, and additional precautions should be taken, including wearing face masks.
- In accordance with the Executive Order on social gathering size, there should be no class size or pod greater than 25.
- Instructors should instruct students against congregating at gathering spaces on the premises (e.g. halls and the lobby outside the classroom). Student seating anywhere other than at tables or designated seats is prohibited. Outdoor breaks are strongly encouraged.
- Procedures that cannot be executed with physical distancing should be documented by businesses and organizations in the required COVID-19 Control Plan.
- Tables must:
 - Be separated by at least 8 feet from table edge to table edge or to allow 6 feet spacing between students seated at different tables;
 - Be at least 6 feet away from areas with regular student foot traffic (e.g., routes to bathrooms, entrances, and exits); Tables can be separated from each other by physical, non-porous, inflexible barriers (such as plexiglass or a wall) of sufficient height to separate seated students.
 - The CDC recommends plexiglass as a mitigation tool to shield against droplets from coughs or sneezes when a distance of 6 feet cannot be maintained. Plexiglass is not a substitute for maintaining 6 feet of distance

between people and RIDOH does not recommend using plexiglass as a mechanism to increase capacity in the classroom setting; and

- Be cleaned and disinfected prior to the start of class.
- Instructors must plan student seating and designate where each person will sit. Upon arriving at the premises, the instructor should ensure that students are directed to their table in a manner that respects physical distancing guidelines.
- Water fountains are not allowed but touchless water filling stations are permitted.
- For facility bathrooms:
 - Facility should promote physical distancing within bathrooms (alternating stalls, sinks, etc.), or take other practical steps (including the posting of signage).
 - Facility must clean commonly touched surfaces in restrooms (e.g., toilet seats, doorknobs, stall handles, sinks, paper towel dispensers, soap dispensers) with increased frequency and in accordance with CDC guidelines. A full list of EPA's approved disinfectants for use against SARS-CoV-2 can be found [here](#).
- Classes should be a consistent grouping of students without changes, whenever possible. Student committed to attending should do so within the designated grouping.
- The class roster with contact information must be maintained by the instructor, association, or business for at least 30 days and this information should be available to RIDOH upon request for the purposes of contact tracing.
- Facilities should consider increasing ventilation with outdoor air circulation when safe and practicable.
- Instructors should minimize time spent within 6 feet of students.

Where not specified above, all organizations should follow the general guidance from RIDOH and CDC regarding gathering sizes and physical distancing. Please refer to the Phase III general guidance document for businesses found at <http://www.reopeningri.com/>.

Face masks and other personal protective equipment

- Instructors and students are required to wear face coverings or masks if 6 feet or more from other people cannot be easily, continuously or measurably maintained.

Payment and Training Materials

- Contactless and/or cashless payment methods are encouraged where feasible.
- Training materials should be wrapped and delivered to students prior to class.

Screening procedures

- RIDOH's screening requirements of employees, customers, and visitors entering an establishment applies to classroom and training settings. People whose responses to screening questions indicate they are COVID-19 positive, sick, or who show visible signs of illness must be denied entrance and instructed to isolate. Instructors may supplement screening questions with temperature checks. Screening of students and visitors may consist of self-screening as guided by posted signage. Please review the general business guidance document for more details on screening.

- In addition to screening for COVID-19 symptoms and risk factors as outlined in the general guidance, instructors, associations, or businesses should inform students when registering for a class of screening requirements and notify students that they should reschedule if diagnosed with or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. This notification can be done by phone, text, email, or verbally.

Enhanced cleaning and/or disinfecting procedures

- Prior to holding the class, the facility must be thoroughly cleaned, including all tables, chairs, bathrooms, and frequently touched areas in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- Establishments must make hand washing facilities (with running soap and water) or alcohol-based hand sanitizer, which contains 60% alcohol, available to all students and instructors. Hand sanitizer should be made available at the facility's entrances and exits, as well as in classrooms, when practicable.

Implementing Guidance

- Instructors, organizations, or associations should monitor compliance with physical distancing measures, sanitization, and other standards included in this guidance.
- Facilities must post signage, visible to students, that communicates expected physical distancing, mask wearing, and customer screening policies.