

WEDA 2022 Summer Conference Health Measures

The Washington Economic Development Association (WEDA) is committed to demonstrating the highest standards of hospitality industry health practices. WEDA will require in-person attendees and staff to fully comply with the guidance from the State of Washington and Whatcom County Health Department established for Whatcom County at the point of the Conference. WEDA is committed to following the basic methods of COVID-19 prevention outlined by the State of Washington Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Conference Venue COVID-19 Safety Guidelines

Consistent with the most recent CDC guidance, fully vaccinated conference attendees are not required to wear face coverings or social distance in indoor or outdoor areas, unless required by local law, but they are welcomed to do so. **We ask that unvaccinated attendees wear face coverings and practice social distancing when they are in public spaces.**

Physical Distancing

- WEDA has limited the number of in-person attendees for the 2022 Summer Conference and will use conference spaces that allow for safety guidelines provided by the State of Washington Department of Health. General conference receptions will be held out of doors, weather permitting.
- To limit the sharing of frequently touched objects, the Conference will be almost entirely paperless. All materials will be shared electronically.

Venue Cleaning & Disinfecting

- **Enhanced Public Space Cleaning:** The Four Points by Sheraton Bellingham Hotel & Conference Center has increased the frequency of cleaning and disinfection, particularly in areas with high traffic including restrooms, elevators, and escalators as well as provided more hand sanitizing stations. They use enhanced technologies, including electrostatic sprayers with hospital-grade disinfectants, to support its already rigorous cleanliness protocols.
- **Facial Coverings:** Consistent with the most recent CDC guidance, fully vaccinated attendees are not required to wear face coverings or social distance in indoor or outdoor areas of the hotel, unless required by local law. **We ask that unvaccinated attendees wear face coverings and practice social distancing when they are in public spaces inside the hotel.**
- For more information on Marriott International's "Commitment to Clean," [click here.](#)

Healthy Operations

- WEDA encourages staff and attendees who are sick or who have had close contact with a person with COVID-19 to [stay home](#) and self-monitor. *Note: Registration fees will be refunded; attendees will also have the option to donate or defer their registration fees to the next WEDA conference.*
- Depending on local health department guidelines, WEDA staff may check attendees for [signs or symptoms](#) of COVID-19.