



Returning to the Studio

Suggested Guidelines for Reopening after Covid-19 Closures

With many states across the country lifting restrictions and allowing for the reopening of businesses, RAD USA has compiled the following suggested considerations and guidelines for returning to the studio.

As directives vary greatly not only from state to state but also regionally, these suggestions should be taken into consideration along with guidelines from your state and local governments and local public health authorities. Additionally, the guidelines listed below may serve as a starting point in planning your reopening and should not be considered an exhaustive list.

Preparing to Reopen

- How many students will your studio/s accommodate while allowing dancers and faculty to remain at minimum six feet apart?
- How many total people will your facility accommodate while maintaining social distancing guidelines?
- If you were previously offering online classes, will you continue once reopened taking into consideration that not all students will be ready to come back?
- When preparing your schedule, allow extra time between classes for sanitizing, as well as for the safe movement of students into and out of the building.
- Classes should be planned to allow more time for students to move in smaller groups.
- Communicate with students and families the guidelines you have put into place for their safe return to the studio. If offering, provide options for virtual classes should they not be ready to return.
- Ask families to sign an updated participation waiver. Consider legal counsel for guidance on making Covid-19 related updates.
- Prepare to receive payments via no contact methods and avoid cash transactions.

Facility

- Thoroughly clean and disinfect before reopening. See the CDC's [Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting](#)
- Sanitize all surfaces before and after classes including props if used.
- Regularly disinfect door handles, light switches and other high touch surfaces.
- Keep a daily record of when cleaning and disinfecting is done.
- Provide hand sanitizer throughout the building.
- Close Dressing Rooms. Students should arrive fully dressed and ready for class.
- Close Waiting Rooms. Students may be escorted out of the building by a faculty or staff member to a parent or caretaker waiting outside.
- Consider not keeping a "Lost and Found".
- Close drinking fountains.
- Do not allow food to be eaten inside.
- Do not allow street shoes into the studio.
- Post signage throughout to remind of safe distancing protocol.
- **Bathrooms**
 - Tape off a waiting line to ensure appropriate physical distancing.
 - If the restroom is larger, close off a few stalls and sinks to allow for appropriate physical distancing.
 - Provide antibacterial soap and hand sanitizer.
 - Consider installing no-touch soap dispensers and hand dryers.

Health

- Perform daily health checks including temperature and symptom checks for all faculty, staff and dancers entering the facility.
- Log results of the health checks.
- **Temperature Checks**
 - Use a touchless thermometer.
 - The CDC considers a person to have a fever when they have a measured temperature of at least 100.4°F.
 - Anyone with a fever should be sent home at once.
- **Questions for Symptom Checks**
 - Have you had a fever in the last two weeks?
 - Do you have a cough or breathing problems?
 - Have you been around anyone exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms (including but not limited to fever, chills, muscle pain, cough, loss of smell or taste) in the last 14 days?
- Have a plan in place for what to do if a student, faculty or staff member becomes ill or shows signs of illness while on site.

Faculty and Staff

- After entering the building, wash hands with warm, soapy water for at least 20 seconds.
- Teachers should wash hands before and after each class.
- Faculty and Staff should frequently wash or sanitize hands after using cell phones, sound systems, credit card machines, etc.
- Faculty and staff should wear face masks or face shields.

Students

- Have a staff member admit students into the studio after a health check and sanitizing hands.
- Dance bags and other belongings not needed during class should be kept out of the studio and placed 6 feet apart from other students' bags. Limit what is brought into the studio.
- Dancers should bring their own reusable water bottle already filled.
- Sanitize hands at the end of class before exiting the studio.
- Students should be reminded to make sure that they are taking all of their belongings home with them.
- Students should be picked up immediately and may be escorted out by a faculty or staff member.
- Consider whether students will be asked to wear face masks or face shields.

Class

- Students and faculty should remain at minimum six feet apart during class.
- Mark places at the barre and in the center to ensure minimum physical distancing.
- When possible, students can use antibacterial wipes to sanitize their area of the barre before moving to center.
- When moving across the floor, maintain 13 - 16 feet between sets.
- Avoid direct floor work.
- No hands-on corrections.

Resources

Task Force on Dancer Health: [Return to Dancing and Training Considerations Due to Covid-19](#)

The Dance Docs: [Considerations for Reintegrating and Returning Into the Dance Studio](#)

CDC: [Symptoms of Coronavirus](#)

OSHA: [Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for Covid-19](#)

CDC: [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#)