



SAG-AFTRA



Independent Producers: COVID-19 Safety Protocols

What You Need to Know

If you are planning to commence or resume production on a SAG-AFTRA covered project that requires any in person interaction between individuals, the union will be requiring materials related to your COVID-19 safety protocols. While this document doesn't cover everything you need to know, this guide is intended to help you get started on the process.

Resources

Production will have to comply with various guidelines, protocols, and orders depending on where production is taking place. You should be aware of not only SAG-AFTRA protocols, but also CDC and OSHA workplace requirements, as well as any applicable federal, state, county, and city guidelines. Union protocols will follow performers working under a SAG-AFTRA contract anywhere in the world. Resources are located online at sagaftra.org/backtowork. Here are some to begin with:

[The Joint Unions Document – The Safe Way Forward](#)

[The AMPTP – Unions Document – The White Paper](#)

[The Los Angeles County Health Order \(6-11-20\) – Specifically please reference Appendix J, if filming in Los Angeles](#)

Key Points to Consider

Production will need to review and comply with all of the applicable guidelines, protocols, and orders, but a few items that may be helpful to start with are as follows:

TESTING

Production will need to make arrangements for everyone to be tested for COVID-19 and have results 24-48 hours in advance of arrival on set. Additionally, repeat testing during the production period will be required. Performers and those interacting with performers without maintaining social distance will need to be tested at least three times per week. For productions of no more than two days, repeat testing may not be necessary. Additional resources regarding testing facilities will be available soon.

QUARANTINING

Some locations will require that anyone traveling to that location enter into a mandatory quarantine period. This period of time will be treated as paid work time.

ZONES

Zones on set will assist with maintaining social distancing wherever possible and also limit interaction with those who are most exposed on set.

HEALTH AND SAFETY SUPERVISOR

Production will need to have a dedicated COVID-19 Supervisor (often called a COVID-19 Specialist or a Health Safety Supervisor). This individual must be someone with health and safety credentials, such as a nurse, EMT, Industrial Hygienist, etc. This person must only be on set for COVID-19 oversight of protocols and nothing else except health/safety issues. The union will require that the producer identify this person prior to commencing production.

PPE

Production will need to be equipped to provide all cast and crew with appropriate personal protective equipment (“PPE”). Production should consider that different job functions may require different PPE.

LIABILITY WAIVERS / ASSUMPTION OF RISK

Performers may not be required to sign liability “waivers” or any documents requiring assumption of risk without first bargaining these documents with the union.

DOCUMENTS

As part of the signatory process, production will be asked to submit a variety of documents, including without limitation, a written COVID-19 prevention plan, risk assessment report, scene breakdowns for any scenes that require close contact between performers and/or crew and performers, information regarding travel and transportation, and lodging, as well as other general requirements for the safety of our performers.

Additional questions:
(855) SAG-AFTRA

To report to SAG-AFTRA issues
regarding safety, call:

EMERGENCY HOTLINE
(844) SAFER SET / (844) 723-3773
24 hours, seven days a week

NON-EMERGENCY SAFETY LINE
(323) 765-2911, M-F, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. PT
(voicemail is available)