

OPENING

Q. When will OMSI reopen to the public?

A. With Governor Brown's announcement of statewide operating guidelines for museums, zoos and outdoor gardens, OMSI was able to reopen on Saturday, June 20.

Q. Will the entire museum be open? Or just portions of it?

A. In order to prioritize a safe and healthy experience, we plan to open the museum in phases. Initially, visitors will be able to visit the *BODY WORLDS & The Cycle of Life* exhibit and the USS Blueback submarine. At this time, Turbine Hall, Natural Sciences Hall, Science Playground, Empirical Theater, Kendall Planetarium, Teen Tech Center, and Labs will not be open.

Q. How will I know which areas of the museum are open to visitors?

A. Signs and staff on site will direct visitors to available experiences.

Q. When will other areas of the museum reopen to the public?

A. We plan to reopen areas of the museum in a phased approach over the course of the next few months. We hope to have most experiences (including our newly renovated Science Playground) open by fall. However, our ability to reopen experiences will be determined by the course of the pandemic and in coordination with state and local health authorities.

Q. How long will BODY WORLDS be at OMSI?

A. The *BODY WORLDS & The Cycle of Life* exhibit will be on view until Sunday, October 4. This three-week extension will give visitors more time to experience the science and splendor of the human body.

Q. Will OMSI restaurants Theory and the Empirical Café be open?

A. The Empirical Café and Theory restaurant will not be open during the initial phase of reopening.

Q. Will the OMSI Science Store be open?

A. Yes, the Science Store will be open for limited hours. Our staff will regulate store capacity with the aid of floor social distancing floor markers. Small, high-touch products typically merchandised in bins will be relocated. Store operations will meet or exceed [OHA Retail guidance](#).

HEALTH & SAFETY

Q. How will OMSI maintain proper social distancing requirements?

A. We will restrict admissions to *BODY WORLDS & The Cycle of Life* and each of our experiences to 25% or less of capacity and will institute timed ticketing for each offering. Museum staff will be available to monitor visitor flow, and floor markers have been installed in places where visitors line up or congregate.

Q. Will OMSI require visitors to wear face coverings in order to enter the museum? What type of face coverings will be required/prohibited?

A. All visitors over the age of 5 are required to wear a face covering (mask) that covers both the nose and mouth during their visit unless an accommodation for people with disabilities or other exemption applies. Face coverings are optional for youth between the ages of 2 and 4 and are not recommended for youth under the age of 2. If visitors do not have a face covering, OMSI can provide one.

Q. Will OMSI staff be required to wear PPE, such as face coverings?

A. Yes, unless an accommodation for people with disabilities or other exemption applies. If they do not have a face covering, they will be provided one by OMSI.

Q. What sort of cleaning guidelines does OMSI have in place to ensure proper cleanliness and sanitation?

A. The health and safety of our visitors and staff is our top priority, which is why our facilities team uses EPA-registered disinfectants and sanitizers to keep the museum healthy and safe. In addition to our facilities team, our front-line employees (i.e. guest services, concierge, education, etc.) have received specialized training in the use of these disinfectants. All our high-use areas (i.e. restrooms, classrooms, high-traffic exhibit halls, etc) are cleaned multiple times throughout the day.

Q. Will plastic barriers be in place at point-of-sale areas?

A. Yes.

Q. How will social distancing be supported in close quarter areas like the submarine, theater and planetarium?

A. The Blueback submarine's tour capacities will be reduced to 20% or less of capacity. Guides will direct visitors through the vessel to ensure proper social distancing between parties and social distancing markers will be located in appropriate areas of the submarine.

When the Kendall Planetarium and Empirical Theater reopen later in summer, capacities will be reduced to 25% of former capacity and seating arrangements will be established to maintain the mandated six feet of distancing between distinct parties.

Q. Is there a contact tracing plan in place if someone at the museum tests positive for COVID-19?

A. Yes, there is a contact tracing plan in place, but it is Multnomah County Health Department's responsibility. OMSI has established Communicable Disease Plans for both OMSI Camps and Classes and the museum. These plans outline how OMSI staff will assist the Multnomah Health Department as requested with contact tracing in the event either a guest or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19.

Q: Will OMSI be limiting the number of people allowed in the museum at one time?

A: Yes, to ensure that we are meeting social distancing requirements, we will employ timed admission ticketing to the museum and attractions, in addition to having staff monitor high-traffic areas.

Q. Will I have to limit the size of the group I attend with?

A. Yes, according to [Oregon Health Authority guidelines](#), parties visiting the museum are limited to 10 or fewer people.

Q. How will I know if the museum is at capacity before I visit?

A. We encourage visitors to purchase their museum or attraction admission tickets online at OMSI.edu. Our online ticketing system will notify you if there are no further tickets available for the museum or attraction at the particular time you indicate due to capacity limitations. You may also contact OMSI Guest Services at 503.797.4000.

Q. I am part of an at-risk population (I am pregnant, I have asthma, I have a disability, my son/daughter/partner has a disability). Can I go to OMSI?

A. If you identify as part of an at-risk population, we recommend you consult with your health care provider prior to visiting OMSI.

Q. Will OMSI staff and visitors be required to have their temperature taken upon entering?

A. OMSI visitors will not be required to have their temperature checked. However, OMSI staff are required to report whether they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and whether they have a temperature of 100.4 or above prior to coming into work. Reporting will be done through an online survey to ensure confidentiality.

Q. How is OMSI ensuring the health and safety of its employees?

A. Our employees' health and safety is extremely important to us. If our staff feel sick, we are asking them to stay home, regardless of whether the symptoms are related to COVID-19. We are also asking them to report if they have a temperature of 100.4 or are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 symptoms.

Some additional precautions we are taking include: OMSI staff are required to wear a face covering, we have set up plastic partitions at all our ticket counters, staff are receiving special training on best practices for hygiene, health and safety, and we are working on establishing distanced workspaces.

Q. Will OMSI still host events like OMSI After Dark and Kendall Concerts?

A. OMSI will start to host events such as OMSI After Dark as events/gathering guidelines allow. Kendall Concerts will resume once we determine which live music events are appropriate for our planetarium space.