Recommendations for Healthy & Safe Production Sets

The health and safety of our cast and crews are a top priority of the Utah Film Commission. Below are suggestions to help ensure their safety. We realize that every production is different and these are some basic recommendations to get you started and are based on the Utah Leads Together Phased Guidelines. These should be used in tandem with and not supersede the 22-page white paper issued by the AMPTP Industry-Wide Labor-Management Safety Committee Task Force made up of US studios, guilds, unions, and other stakeholders establishing safety protocols for production to resume amid COVID-19, as well as The Safe Way Forward, a joint report of the DGA, SAG-AFTRA, IATSE and Teamsters’ Committees for COVID-19 Safety Guidelines.

Be sure to consult local health department officials to ensure you are following any other mandates. Learn more about current State and Local Orders and Directives.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Designate one crew member to supervise infection prevention and compliance on set.
2. Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to cast and crew. Learn more about available PPE Resources for Small Businesses.
3. Ensure routine cleaning and disinfection on set.
4. Adjust timeframes and budgets to accommodate safety practices.
5. Stagger call, lunch, and wrap times to allow for social distancing.
6. Take temperatures of cast and crew at point of arrival.
7. Ensure there are special considerations for high risk individuals. Learn more about How to Screen and Test Employees to Create a Safe Work Environment.
8. Provide information to all cast & crew about COVID-19 symptoms and set up procedures to follow if these symptoms present themselves.

PRE-PRODUCTION

- Prepare a COVID-19 production plan which may be requested by local permitting agencies and/or health departments for permit or business license approval.
- Provide health questionnaires for all cast & crew to determine if someone could have been exposed to illness recently.
- Increase opportunities for crew to work remotely or virtually for prep, shoot and wrap.
- Move to a paperless set as much as possible.
- Consider sequestering cast and crew in hotels to control the environment and avoid bringing illness to and from set.
- Be prepared with a back-up crew in case of illness during filming and require anyone who is sick to stay home.
• Carefully consider the number of extras required and ensure there is enough space for them to gather safely.

PRODUCTION
• Maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet whenever possible and include markings on the floor where people need to line up.
• Ensure hand sanitizing/hand washing stations are available on set for frequent hand washing.
• Divide set and on-location areas into sections with production teams isolated from each other. Limit areas on set to essential personnel only.
• Include additional PAs dedicated to assisting with sanitizing.
• Do not use other people’s phones or personal work tools.
• When possible, call times should be staggered to avoid large groups converging on a single area at one time.
• Minimize or eliminate visitors to set.
• When shooting, limit takes to make sets more efficient and result in less standing around time.
• Consider renting additional transportation vehicles to allow distance between seats.
• Vehicles should be wiped down inside and out every time people exit the vehicle.
• Catering/craft service and hair/make-up should follow Utah Phased Guidelines for Restaurants and Personal Services.

WRAP
• Continue paperless and remote work as much as possible.
• Allow for additional time and sanitization on returning equipment.
• Ensure locations are sanitized after use.

These recommendations are not intended to be the only possible recommendations for this situation or even a complete list. These recommendations are not intended to be medical advice. We strongly encourage all cast and crew to contact the following organizational resources for more information and for specific questions regarding your own policies and procedures.

• UTAH: https://coronavirus.utah.gov/utahs-health-guidance-system/
• OSHA: https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf
• CDC:
• World Health Organization: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

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Updated 07/2020