Beginning Production
While stay at home restrictions are in place by the Governor, filming permits are not being issued. Once restrictions are lifted, and film permitting resumes, the local jurisdictions will continue with the requirements they have set forth to obtain film permits. As businesses reopen under the Governor’s guidance, productions will continue to adhere to policies in place at the location of filming (i.e. retail establishments used as a film location will still adhere to the guidance on retail establishments).

Physical Production
Productions obtaining a film permit will have requirements mandated to them by the companies they represent. For example, an HBO show filming in Nevada will adhere to the requirements set forth by HBO. These required procedures are designed to maintain safe production environments for all their crew and vendors and will be determined by them. Additional safety requirements, if any, will be communicated to productions when they register with the film office or apply for a film permit. At this time, there have been no additional requirements from the state of Nevada for productions.

Union Productions
Crew members who are represented by unions have their union representatives working with them and the industry to determine how to keep crews effectively working, while adhering to the new and evolving safety guidelines. The State of Nevada works closely with the unions and productions, respecting the established relationships and continuing to let them work as designed, for the benefit of their members, crew and productions.

Non-union/Independent Productions
For productions not operating under guidelines provided by companies (Netflix, HBO, etc.) or unions, there are resources available to assist these productions to operate safely. For productions looking for suggested best practices for set safety, we have compiled information from various resources, including but not limited to:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
- Southern Nevada Health District
- State of Nevada

The compiled resources are for the benefit of productions looking for a place to begin, to understand what contemporary productions are doing and how to proceed. Individual productions should continue to exercise their judgment in how to keep their employees and vendors safe while in production.

As data and information continues to emerge, best practices continue to be established for safe continuation of filming and content creation. Safety is a top priority of production companies, unions, and states, working together to get production up and running.
Production Safety Guidelines

Social Distancing

- Essential personnel on set only. Only essential cast and crew should be allowed on premises. Limit the number of people in all departments when possible.

- When possible, designate one department at a time in a work area and increase physical space between cast and crew members.

- All crew working with talent should be masked and gloved.

- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet apart whenever possible including during break and meal periods. Consider staggering meal breaks.

- Consider placing distance markers for line formations and one-way pathways when possible.

- Discourage handshakes and other contact greetings and physical contact.

- Consider staggering arrival times to avoid congestion in common shared areas.

Sanitation

- Promote frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds by all on-set personnel. If access to soap and water is unavailable, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes containing at least 60% alcohol as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- Utilize sanitation stations. They should be visible & available in all production areas and departments.

- Provide Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved cleaning supplies, frequently and routinely cleaning and disinfecting commonly used high touch surfaces, including sets, props, wardrobe, and workstations.

- Engage a cleaning service or assign specific individual(s)/production assistants to sanitize high touch areas and equipment.

- Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

- Face coverings should be worn by crew on set and all times (and by cast members when not on camera)

- Crew should wear gloves and changed frequently throughout the workday

- Trash receptacles should be supplied for proper disposal of PPE.
Management During Production

- All personnel should read and familiarize themselves with the current Centers for Disease Control COVID-19 Information.

- COVID-19 related updates, reminders and information should be incorporated into daily safety meetings.

- Practice respiratory etiquette: cover when coughing and sneezing.

- Avoid touching your face.

- Self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and report them to supervisor immediately.

- Anyone with a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, or any symptoms of respiratory illness should be required to stay home.

- Require daily temperature checks of all personnel and consider utilizing the Southern Nevada Health District COVID-19 Employee Screening Questionnaire at the start of each work day.

- Increase health personnel to assist with awareness, administering questionnaires and monitoring temperature checks at the beginning of each day /shift.

- Discourage shared use of phones, tools, and equipment whenever possible. Assign office supplies to individuals. Park and move your own car. Substitute petty cash for contactless payment when possible.

- Consider portable catering and craft service. Eliminate self-serve areas of food and beverages. Provide individually wrapped snacks, eliminate shared platters and unpackaged goods. Use personal reusable water bottles (clearly labeled) and single use flatware, plates and cups.

- Increase ventilation when shooting indoors. Keep windows and doors open when possible.

THIS GUIDANCE IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS GATHERED. PLEASE CHECK HERE FREQUENTLY FOR UPDATES.

This information provided is designed as a serve as a guide for productions in Nevada and is intended only to provide general information, not as legal advice or opinion.
REFERENCES & RESOURCES

Federal OSHA - https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/

Federal OSHA Guidance (OSHA 3996)  

Center for Disease Control and Prevention  

Environmental Protection Agency: https://www.epa.gov/

State of Nevada-  https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/

Nevada OSHA Information: http://dir.nv.gov/OSHA/Home/

Southern Nevada Health District: https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/

World Health Organization: https://www.who.int/

Association of Film Commissions International: https://afci.org/global-production-alert/

UNIONS

Directors Guild of America https://www.dga.org/

IATSE 720: http://iatse720.net/

International Cinematographers Guild Local 600: https://www.icg600.com/

Producers Guild of America https://www.producersguild.org/

Teamsters: https://teamster.org/category/state/nevada

SAG/AFTRA https://www.sagaftra.org/
RELATED ARTICLES:

Op-Ed: How film and television production can safely resume in a COVID-19 world

Association of Independent Commercial Producers
https://www.aicp.com/business-resources/business-affairs-information/aicp-guidelines/covid-19-workplace-guidelines/production-specific-considerations?fbclid=IwAR2P12c_Qugd8zOFv0tAyFWRN0nzFWh6Uu83q1ZMGU-3sCgcYjuWJaiPP0c

Film Florida Recommendations for Clean & Healthy Production Sets

Europe’s Film Commissions Set Out Common Production Safety Guidelines (EXCLUSIVE)