Guidance for Accessing/Working in Shared Studio Spaces during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Purpose

Ensure employees’ health and safety by minimizing the spread of the virus when required to utilize shared studio spaces to prepare programming.

Description of Task

A considerable amount of programming will be conducted online. To offer and produce quality online programming, employees will require access to shared studio spaces and tools (recording equipment, whiteboard and markers, etc.).

Table of Contents

Purpose .................................................................................................................................................. 1
Description of Task .................................................................................................................................. 1
Hierarchy of Hazard Control ......................................................................................................................... 2
Physical Distancing ..................................................................................................................................... 2
Administrative Controls ............................................................................................................................... 2
  Physical Distancing On-Site ......................................................................................................................... 2
  Schedule ................................................................................................................................................. 2
Equipment/Tools .......................................................................................................................................... 3
Hygiene Practices ......................................................................................................................................... 3
Personal Protective Equipment ....................................................................................................................... 3
Work Procedures .......................................................................................................................................... 3
Resources ..................................................................................................................................................... 4

For more information, contact Environmental and Occupational Health Support Services (EOHSS)
**Hierarchy of Hazard Control**

Hazard mitigation should always focus on implementing control measures to eliminate or reduce risk. The hierarchy can be applied to any hazard in the workplace including COVID-19.

**Physical Distancing**

Employees should continue to work from home if there is appropriate space and access to tools to prepare programming.

**Administrative Controls**

**Physical Distancing On-Site**

Physical distancing (always keep a minimum distance of 6 feet (2m) from others) must be maintained when on campus and in studio spaces.

**Schedule**

Employees requiring use of studio spaces will schedule a date and time to access space prior to travelling to campus to limit person to person interactions.

For more information, contact [Environmental and Occupational Health Support Services (EOHSS)](mailto:info@mcmaster.ca)
Equipment/Tools

- If possible, employees will bring their personal computer equipment and tools (i.e. laptop, writing instruments, etc.) to the studio spaces to avoid high touch surfaces.
- Select new tools (i.e. markers, chalk, etc.) will be made available to employees and are not to be shared and will be used for future work in studio spaces.
- Shared and borrowed equipment and tools (i.e. recording equipment, etc.) and high touch surfaces in space (i.e. desktop, doorknobs, etc.) will be sanitized by user prior to work and before leaving studio space. Disinfectant wipes will be supplied in all studio spaces.

Hygiene Practices

- Contact McMaster Facility Services to arrange for increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of high touch surfaces in studio spaces.
- To prevent exposure, employees should avoid touching face, eyes and mouth.
- Employees must conduct appropriate hand hygiene; location of the closest sink with soap and water should be communicated and hand sanitizer should be made available.
- Employees are encouraged to self-screen. If experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, immediately self-isolate and complete the Ontario COVID-19 self-assessment tool to help determine how to seek further care.

Personal Protective Equipment

Personal protective equipment is not required while working in studio spaces as physical distancing and appropriate hygiene practices can be achieved.

Work Procedures

1) Identify if work can appropriately be completed at home, or if access to studio space is necessary.
2) Schedule a date and time to access studio space and notify supervisor.
3) Practice physical distancing on campus and in studio space.
4) Prior to beginning work, use disinfectant wipes provided to sanitize high touch surfaces (i.e. doorknobs, desktop, etc.) and shared equipment (i.e. microphone, etc.), and dispose of wipes.
5) Avoid touching face, eyes and mouth.
6) Do not eat/drink in studio spaces.

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7) Upon completion of work, use disinfectant wipes provided to sanitize all high touch surfaces and shared equipment, and dispose of wipes.
8) After leaving studio space, immediately proceed to the nearest sink with soap and water, and thoroughly wash hands. If this is not possible, use hand sanitizer provided.
9) Notify supervisor that work has been completed in studio space.

Resources
- RMM 304: Working Alone Program
- How to Hand Wash video
- Public Health Ontario - COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool
- Public Health Ontario - COVID-19 Information
- Government of Ontario - COVID-19 information

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