COVID-19 BUSINESS GUIDELINES for essential service businesses

These guidelines provide basic information only. It is not intended to take the place of medical advice, diagnosis or treatment.

WHAT TO DO

Create and implement an active screening plan including:

- Location and staffing of the screening table
- Signage to support the active screening process
- Rules to allow or prohibit entry
- Script for screening
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer available at the screening table
- Handout explaining changes
- Develop sick policies and work from home options

SCREENING QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Greet everyone entering the building with a friendly, calm, and reassuring manner.

- "Good morning/afternoon! As you know, COVID-19 continues to evolve quickly. We are screening all employees for potential risks of COVID-19 to ensure the health and safety of everyone."

1) Do you have any of the following symptoms: fever/feverish, chills, dry cough, difficulty breathing, or digestive symptoms such as diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain?
   - Yes  
   - No  
2) Have you had close contact with a confirmed/probable COVID-19 case?
   - Yes  
   - No  
3) Have you recently traveled outside of the county in the past 14 days (outside of your normal home to work/grocery/pharmacy route)?
   - Yes  
   - No  

HOW TO RESPOND

If the individual answers NO to all questions, they have passed the screening and can begin working.

If the individual answers YES to any screening questions, or refuses to answer, they have failed the screening. Keep the employee away from others and contact a supervisor for assistance.

Modified March 31, 2020
MESSAGES YOU CAN USE TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF VIRUSES AND STAY HEALTHY

Practice these healthy habits to prevent the spread of viruses:

- Wash your hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or cough/sneeze in your upper sleeve.
- Immediately throw away used tissues in the trash, then wash hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as doorknobs, handles, light switches, tables, toilets, faucets, sinks and cell phones.
- Avoid touching common surfaces in public places -- elevator buttons, door handles, handrails, etc. Use elbows or knuckles to push buttons/door handles when you do not have a tissue or sleeve to cover your hand/finger.
- Make sure others in your household, or anyone you are regularly in close contact with, follow these precautions.

For more information, visit the CDC's Resources for Businesses and Employers:


For questions, utilize the Public Health Information Line at 1-888-535-6136.
I think I have been exposed to COVID-19, what should I do?

**Close Contacts**

- I live with or am caring for someone with COVID-19
- Someone that has COVID-19 coughed or sneezed on me
- I think my coworker has COVID-19
- I think someone I know has COVID-19

You should self quarantine and monitor yourself for symptoms. The local health department may ask you to do so.*

Have you developed symptoms of respiratory illness such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath?

- **YES**
  - Are you having severe symptoms like difficulty breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse or bluish lips or face?
    - **YES**
      - Seek immediate medical attention.
    - **NO**
      - Continue to monitor yourself for symptoms.

- **NO**
  - Contact your health care provider to discuss your symptoms.

**HOW DO I MONITOR MYSELF?**

Pay attention for COVID-19 symptoms:
- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath

If you are concerned about your health, contact your health care provider.

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**If your doctor decides you should be tested for COVID-19,** your health care provider can order testing for you.

Health care provider takes a sample → Sample is sent to a laboratory for testing → Laboratory sends result to health care provider → Health care provider informs patient of result. The state health department will not provide results.

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*Quarantine process for general public, does not specifically apply to health care workers.
Timing and location of cleaning and disinfection of surfaces.

At a school, daycare center, office, or other facility that does not house people overnight:

It is recommended to close off areas used by the ill persons and wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection to minimize potential for exposure to respiratory droplets. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area. If possible, wait up to 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfection.

How to clean and disinfect.

Surfaces

If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

For disinfection, diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.

- Diluted household bleach solutions can be used if appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer’s instructions for application and proper ventilation.
- Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

- Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
  Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:
  - Five tablespoons (1/3 cup) bleach per gallon of water, or
  - Four teaspoons bleach per quart of water.

Products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims are expected to be effective against COVID-19 based on data for harder to kill viruses. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.).

Soft Surfaces

For soft (porous) surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes, remove visible contamination if present and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces. After cleaning:

- If the items can be laundered, launder items in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and then dry items completely. Otherwise, use products with the EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims that are suitable for porous surfaces.
Linens, Clothing, and Other Items That Go in the Laundry

- Do not shake dirty laundry; this minimizes the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
- Wash items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and dry items completely. Dirty laundry that has been in contact with an ill person can be washed with other people’s items.
- Clean and disinfect hampers or other carts for transporting laundry according to guidance above for hard or soft surfaces.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) and hand hygiene considerations.

Cleaning staff should wear disposable gloves and gowns for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.

- Gloves and gowns should be compatible with the disinfectant products being used.
- Additional PPE might be required based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used and whether there is a risk of splash.
- Gloves and gowns should be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and the surrounding area. Be sure to clean hands after removing gloves.
- Gloves should be removed after cleaning a room or area occupied by ill persons. Clean hands immediately after gloves are removed.
- Cleaning staff should immediately report breaches in PPE (e.g., tear in gloves) or any potential exposures to their supervisor.

Cleaning staff and others should clean hands often.

Clean hands often including immediately after removing gloves and after contact with an ill person, by washing hands with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If soap and warm water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used. However, if hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and warm water.

Follow normal preventive actions while at work and home, including cleaning hands and avoiding touching eyes, nose, or mouth. Additional key times to clean hands include:

- After blowing one’s nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After using the restroom
- Before eating or preparing food
- After contact with animals or pets
- Before and after providing routine care for another person who needs assistance (e.g., a child)