



# BIE SAFETY ADVISOR

## CDC GUIDELINES FOR OPENING UP AMERICA

As an employer, if your business operations were interrupted, resuming normal or phased activities presents an opportunity to update your COVID-19 preparedness, response, and control plans. All employers should implement and update as necessary a plan that:

- is specific to your workplace,
- identifies all areas and job tasks with potential exposures to COVID-19, and
- includes control measures to eliminate or reduce such exposures.

Talk with your employees about planned changes and seek their input. Additionally, collaborate with employees and unions to effectively communicate important COVID-19 information.

Employers should follow the *White House Guidelines for Opening Up America Again*, a phased approach based on current levels of transmission and healthcare capacity at the state or local level, as part of resuming business operations. Business operation decisions should be based on both the level of disease transmission in the community and your readiness to protect the safety and health of your employees and customers.

## ALL PHASES

During all phases of reopening, employers should develop and implement appropriate policies, in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations and guidance, and informed by industry best practices, regarding:

- Social distancing and protective equipment
- Temperature checks
- Sanitation
- Use and disinfection of common and high-traffic areas
- Business travel

Monitor your workforce for symptoms. Do not allow symptomatic people to physically return to work until cleared by a medical provider.

Develop and implement policies and procedures for workforce contact tracing following employee COVID+ test.

### **PHASE ONE** (*For Regions that satisfy the gating criteria*)

Employers should:

- continue to encourage telework, whenever possible and feasible
- if possible, return to work in phases.
- close common areas where personnel are likely to congregate and interact, or enforce strict social distancing protocols.
- minimize non-essential travel and adhere to CDC guidelines regarding isolation following travel.
- strongly consider special accommodations for personnel who are members of a vulnerable population.

### **PHASE TWO** (*For Regions with no evidence of a rebound and that satisfy the gating criteria a second time*)

Employers should:

- continue to encourage telework, whenever possible and feasible
- close common areas where personnel are likely to congregate and interact, or enforce moderate social distancing protocols.
- strongly consider special accommodations for personnel who are members of a vulnerable population.

### **PHASE THREE** (*For Regions with no evidence of a rebound and that satisfy the gating criteria a third time*)

Employers can resume unrestricted staffing of worksites.



# Monthly Toolbox Talk

## Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19



### How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings

Cloth face coverings should—

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape

You should also wash your hands before putting on your face covering

### When to Wear Cloth Face Coverings

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. A cloth face covering is not intended to protect the wearer, but it may prevent the spread of virus from the wearer to others. This would be especially important if someone is infected but does not have symptoms.

When wearing a cloth face covering:

- Keep the covering on your face the entire time you're in public
- Don't put the covering around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the face covering, and, if you do, clean your hands

Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.

The cloth face coverings recommended are **not** surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders or for your protection when exposed to workplace particulates, such as silica dust.

### Take off your cloth face covering carefully

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their cloth face covering
- Wash your hands with soap and water

Cloth face coverings should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use. A washing machine should suffice to properly wash a cloth face covering.

### Safety Reminder

- **Wash your hands frequently**
- **Use 6' physical distancing practices**
- **Wear your cloth face covering whenever you can't maintain 6' of physical distance**

### Employee Recommendations:

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### HOW THIS TOPIC APPLIES TO THIS JOB:

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**ATTENDEES: Print Name / Signature** (use back if necessary)

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**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE:**

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**JOBSITE / PROJECT:**

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