

Training Considerations related to the COVID-19 virus

Widespread business closures, restrictions on travel, limits on group sizes, facility visitor prohibitions and shelter-in-place orders may limit the availability of employees, consultants, or contractors who normally provide training, auditing, equipment inspections, testing and other essential safety and health and industrial hygiene services.

County Safety Coordinators should update their departmental ***Injury and Illness Prevention Programs*** on **employee training** on preventing COVID spread. This is mandatory in most California workplaces since COVID-19 is widespread in the community.

Training must be provided in a form readily understandable by all employees on the following topics:

- What COVID is and how it spreads;
- Preventing coronavirus spread if you are sick;
- Symptoms of the disease and when to seek medical attention;
- How infected people can spread COVID even if they are asymptomatic;
- The importance of handwashing, and guidelines on how and when to do it;
- Avoid touching your face;
- Maintaining at least six feet of separation from others;
- Issues surrounding face coverings;
- Coughing and sneezing etiquette;
- Safe ways to use cleaners and disinfectants;
- The importance of staying home if you are sick;
- Seeking medical attention if you experience severe symptoms, such as pain or pressure in the chest, confusion, or blueish lips or face;
- Using repeated and physically distanced safety stand-downs or tailgate meetings to reinforce COVID training; and
- Designating a site-specific COVID-19 officer at every job site to observe and ensure employees are implementing their training.

Additional up-to-date resources from Santa Clara County Public Health Department, State Public Health Department, and Cal/OSHA follow:

Santa Clara County Public Health Department

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/home.aspx>

California Department of Public Health

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx>

California Department of Industrial Relations/CAL-OSHA

<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/puborder.asp>