COVID-19 Transportation, Distribution, and Delivery Services under Executive Order 20-99

UPDATED NOVEMBER 30, 2020

At this time, in accordance with Executive Order 20-99 (EO), activities are limited as described below during four weeks from Friday, Nov. 20, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. through Friday, Dec. 18, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

Recent updates clarify restrictions for in-person meetings and training, including professional licensure, certification, and accreditation (See Page 2).

Executive Order 20-99

Why are we dialing back on certain activities for four weeks?

Throughout the month of November, the data has made clear with each passing day that we need to take decisive and aggressive action to contain the most recent phase of the pandemic. Minnesota recently topped 200,000 total confirmed COVID-19 cases for the first time. It took Minnesota more than 6 months to record 100,000 COVID-19 cases, but only 42 days to add an additional 100,000 new cases. We averaged a state record of almost 6,000 cases per day over the previous week, breaking a single-day record for COVID-19 deaths (58) on Nov. 11 and new cases (8,689) on Nov. 14. The Minnesota Department of Health’s (MDH) most recent weekly COVID-19 report found that the current average rates of new COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and intensive care unit admissions, and deaths are the highest they have been since the start of the pandemic, far exceeding the numbers we saw in the worst points of our surges in April and May. We need strong action to control our future case numbers.

EO requirements

The full executive order (EO) with all requirements can be found at Executive Orders from Governor Walz (https://mn.gov/governor/news/executiveorders.jsp).

- Social gatherings prohibited. Social gatherings are groups of people who are not members of the same household, congregated together for a common or coordinated social, community, or leisure purpose – even if social distancing can be maintained. This prohibition includes planned and
spontaneous gatherings as well as public and private gatherings. Most commercial activities are not considered social gatherings, so this change will not impact most industries.

- **Masks and face coverings required.** Executive Order 20-81, requiring face coverings in certain settings, remains in full force and effect.
- **People at higher risk.** All people currently living within the State of Minnesota who are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, as defined by Executive Order 20-55, are strongly urged to stay at home or in their place of residence and follow the provisions of Executive Order 20-55.
- **Work from home.** All people who can work from home must continue to do so.
- **Business and activities are affected differently.** For a full listing of all business and activity requirements and limitations, see the full executive order at [Executive Orders from Governor Walz](https://mn.gov/governor/news/executiveorders.jsp). Many, but not all, businesses will have to pause in-person activities for the next four weeks. Please review the guidance below for industry-specific requirements and applicable Preparedness Plan Requirements Guidance.

### EO requirements for Transportation, Distribution, and Delivery Services

For the next four weeks, businesses providing or engaged in Transportation, Distribution, and Delivery Services will operate under the following provisions:

- Workers who can work from home must do so.
- Meetings and training sessions must be held virtually whenever possible.
- In-person meetings and training sessions must be limited to workers only and must involve as few workers as possible. In-person meetings and training sessions held indoors must not exceed 10 workers at one time. If workers can attend meetings while working from home, they must do so.
- **Professional Testing/Licensure:** Venues are permitted to host in-person training, testing, examinations, and other activities that are necessary for occupational certification, licensure, or to meet a necessary requirement to conduct a trade or business.
  1. In-person training, testing, or examination is not permitted when it is possible to offer the training, testing, or examination by virtual or remote means.
  2. In-person training, testing, or examination is not permitted if it can be postponed until the end of the dial back period in Executive Order 20-99.
  3. The governing licensing, certification, or professional entity must determine whether in-person training, testing, or examination is necessary during the dial back period before the training, testing, or examination can be offered.
  4. Face-coverings must be worn in accordance with Executive Order 20-81.
  5. Food and beverage must not be provided, served, or permitted for on-site consumption for those in attendance.
  6. A written COVID-19 Preparedness Plan is prepared to address the event. The plan addresses the requirements set forth under [Seated Entertainment and Meetings Industry Guidance](http://dli.mn.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/COVID_19_preparedness_plan_requirements_guidelin)
es_seated_entertainment.pdf), or Recreational Entertainment and Meetings Industry Guidance (http://dli.mn.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/COVID_19_preparedness_plan_requirements_guidelines_recreational_entertainment.pdf), including occupant capacity, control of access, physical distancing, and the use of face-coverings.

✓ Licensing, certification, or professional entities that provide training, testing, examinations and other activities that are necessary for occupational licensure or certifications are encouraged to offer remote or virtual options wherever possible and must follow the guidance and Preparedness Plan requirements in this document.

✓ Ensure the protections implemented for their workers are outlined in a written COVID-19 Preparedness Plan, which addresses the businesses industry-specific requirements, including health screening, physical distancing, and the use of face-coverings, at Stay Safe MN (https://staysafe.mn.gov/industry-guidance/index.jsp)

✓ Businesses providing or engaged in Transportation, Distribution, and Delivery Services must provide for 6 feet of physical distancing between individual passengers and/or household pods.

✓ Businesses providing or engaged in Transportation, Distribution, and Delivery Services shall not offer, provide, or maintain recreational and amusement services or offer recreational or entertainment facilities, activities, events, attractions, or spectacles (e.g. “party buses,” hot tubs, dance poles, dance floors, DJs, food and beverage service).

✓ For the purposes of these requirements, vehicles offering, conducting, or providing tours are engaged in providing recreational and amusement services. All recreational and amusement services are not permitted during the next four weeks.

✓ To the extent activities are not paused by EO 20-99, the provisions in the “Preparedness Plan Requirements Guidelines — Transportation, Distribution and Delivery Services” below, continue to be applicable to those activities, unless revised or modified by the above provisions, and businesses providing or engaging in Transportation, Distribution and Delivery Services must continue to comply with them.
COVID-19 Preparedness Plan
Requirements Guidance –
Transportation, Distribution, and Delivery

UPDATED NOVEMBER 30, 2020

Businesses providing or engaged in Transportation, Distribution, and Delivery Services include, but are not limited to, transportation of passengers, over-the-road hauling and distribution, delivery of packages, parcels, mail, food, grocery, and retail distribution.

As required by executive orders issued by Gov. Tim Walz under the Peacetime Emergency, all businesses must develop and implement COVID-19 Preparedness Plans that addresses the hazards of COVID-19 transmission. Unless clearly indicated that an action included in the guidance is recommended, businesses should understand that the action is required if applicable to their business. In instances where the guidance uses language “to the extent possible,” the action is required but only to the extent it is possible for the business to implement the requirement.

✔ Businesses must address all the guidance requirements applicable to their operations in their COVID-19 Preparedness Plans and as set out in each of the components below.

✔ Businesses must assign a designated Plan administrator to ensure the Plan is evaluated, monitored, executed, and updated.

✔ Businesses must ensure the plan is posted at all the business’s worksites in readily accessible locations (or is distributed to workers electronically) to allow for the plan to be readily reviewed by all workers, as required.

Worker protections and protocols for all workplaces

For the purposes of this guidance, a “worker” includes all staff and employees associated with the business. All workers, including subcontractors, independent contractors, vendors, delivery personnel, contract, seasonal, part-time or temporary workers, however categorized, who are present in the business as a condition of employment are required to be covered by a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. Volunteers are also to be included as a “worker”. All workers must be properly trained on and adhere to the business’s policies, protocols, and practices as outlined within this guidance.
TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION AND DELIVERY SERVICES

In addition, a “business” includes all businesses that maintain any level of authority, responsibility, or control for locations where work is being performed, which may include, but not limited to, businesses, facility owners and/or operators, staffing and temporary labor agencies, and public entities. For the purposes of this guidance, and consistent with multi-employer work-sites, work being performed and/or work-sited may have more than one business with authority, responsibility or control (e.g. building operator and cleaning services contractor), all of which maintain equitable responsibility for ensuring the proper implementation and execution of the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan.

ENSURE SICK WORKERS STAY HOME

Requirements

1. Establish health screening protocols for workers at the start of each shift (e.g. health screening survey, taking temperature). A health screening must be conducted for each business's workers upon arrival and check-in at work. See the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)'s Visitor and Employee Health Screening Checklist (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facilityhlthscreen.pdf). The checklist is also available in Hmong, Somali, and Spanish on the Businesses and Employers: COVID-19 web page (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/businesses.html).

2. Workers must be stopped from entering the business if their responses to the health screening indicates they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have tested positive for COVID-19 and they should be sent home immediately. If workers begin experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 while at work, they must also be sent home immediately. If workers cannot be sent home immediately, they must be isolated in a closed room or remote area of the worksite until they can be sent home.

3. Establish a protocol for workers to report, whether at home or at work, when they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been in close contact with a person with COVID-19 symptoms or who has tested positive for COVID-19 and a return-to-work protocol for workers who are required to isolate or quarantine, following the MDH Guidance on COVID-19 and When to return to work (https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/returntowork.pdf)
   - Workers who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been in close contact with a person with COVID-19 symptoms or who has tested positive for COVID-19 must be instructed not to report to work until their isolation or quarantine period is completed.

   - If a worker is confirmed to have COVID-19, the protocol must include informing the business’s other workers who have been in close contact with the infected worker, as well as their respective employers (where applicable), of the possible exposure to COVID-19 while at work. An individual must be designated to gather information from workers who may be sick with COVID-19 and to engage in needed communications, while ensuring the privacy of infected

- Establish protocols for workers to return to work, and follow MDH Guidance. See the MDH Guidance on COVID-19 and When to return to work (https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/returntowork.pdf)

5. Provide accommodations for “high risk” and vulnerable populations. See CDC’s People Who are at Higher Risk for Severe Illness (People Who are at Higher Risk for Severe Illness (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html) identify, and employers should avoid making unnecessary medical inquiries. Employers should take particular care to reduce these workers’ risk of exposure.

6. Evaluate and adjust sick leave policies to reflect the need for isolation and incentivize workers who are sick to stay home. Clearly communicate sick leave policies to all workers.

SOCIAL DISTANCING – WORKERS MUST BE AT LEAST SIX FEET APART

Requirements

1. Maximize remote-working: Workers who are able to work from home must work from home.

2. Hold virtual or online meetings, when possible.

3. Ensure physical distancing is maintained in all work areas, including at workstations, productions lines, cafeterias, break rooms, etc.
   - Provide for six feet of physical distancing in work areas, storage areas, break areas, locker and changing areas, meeting areas, copy-rooms, parking areas, etc.
   - Evaluate traffic patterns, congestion areas, “bottle-necks”, and “choke points” to reduce crowding at entrances, reception areas, information counters, in hallways, elevators, waiting areas, staging areas, locker-room and changing areas, doorways, corridors, janitor’s closets, sink-rooms, transport areas, time-clock areas, etc.
   - Designate one way entrances and exits that facilitate six-foot distancing.
   - If time clocks are in use, consider alternatives such as phone-based apps, web-based apps or cameras to clock workers in and out.
   - Avoid having workers facing each other at work-stations or on assembly-lines whenever possible.
   - Limit collective gatherings of workers to numbers that allow for social distancing to be maintained, including during collective gatherings for training, meetings, and breaks.
   - Ensure social queuing is established to provide and promote social distancing between multiple workers, clients, customers, and visitors congregating and waiting to use facilities (e.g. restrooms, handwashing, vending, cafeterias).
   - Roving Workers: Ensure social distancing is maintained while workers are engaged in “roving” activities (e.g. janitorial, security, customer service, stocking). Where activities must be performed while customers, clients, and visitors are present, workers must ensure social
distancing is maintained (e.g. working in less congested areas, low-peak periods, using stanchions, placement of carts).

- **Custodial/Janitorial:** Refer to additional guidance specific for “Janitorial and Custodial Services” for workers performing janitorial, custodial, housekeeping, and other cleaning and maintenance services.

4. Limit the number of people in restrooms, break areas, and cafeterias to allow for social distancing. Create and designate additional break areas (including outside, when practical) for breaks and meals. Revise break times to prevent congregating in cafeterias and breakrooms. Spread out or remove tables and chairs in break areas so they are at least six feet apart and install barriers where necessary.

5. Implement static assignment or “cohorting” of work crews to the extent possible. For example, Bob, Julie and Indigo always work together and are assigned to the same location or work area every day, rather than reporting to different locations or work areas throughout the week or being reassigned with different workers.

6. Limit worker interaction across floors, buildings, campuses, worksites, etc. Use walkie talkies or headphones so workers can communicate from a distance.

7. Incorporate barriers, partitions, screens or curtains to maintain barrier protection between workers, to the extent possible, where social distancing cannot be maintained.

- **Office Cubicles/Shared Office Space:** Where a larger number of workers assemble in a workspace, and are assigned to individual workstations or cubes, reduce the number of workers within the workspace, and/or reduce the number of workstations available, to ensure social distancing can be maintained.

- **Office Cubicles/Shared Office Space:** Install and provide barriers/partitions in-between cube-spaces, work-stations, and desk areas, in addition to maintaining social distancing, to provide protective separation between workers while working at/within their workstations. The barriers/partitions must be of such dimensions as to ensure separation between workers whether sitting, standing, or otherwise moving within the workspace. The use of barriers/partitions must be used in addition to social distancing, and not used in replacement of social distancing.

- **Payment/Ticket/Merchandise/Concession/Reception/Information Counters:** Install a plastic partition between the workers and customers, clients, and visitors with ample space cut out where items can be slid through.

**Recommendations**

1. Use staggered shifts, extended work hours and added shifts to reduce the number of workers on the worksite.
2. **Office Cubicles/Shared Office Space**: Consider staggered work-schedules or workspace assignments to further promote social distancing by assigning cube spaces diagonal from each other (as opposed to immediate adjacent or across from each other).

3. Use arrows and other signage to mark one-way traffic flows at access-points, in aisles, hallways, stairways and corridors.

4. Mark access points, staging areas, loading areas and other areas of congestion to provide for social distancing of at least six feet, including floor markers for distance, lane lines and marking of adjacent areas where workers may be congregating or waiting.

### WORKER HYGIENE AND SOURCE CONTROLS

#### Requirements

1. **Ensure workers regularly wash their hands.** Instruct workers to regularly wash and/or sanitize their hands, in particular when entering and exiting the business, before and after eating or drinking, using tobacco products, using restroom facilities, and using devices, tools and equipment used by other workers. Instruct workers to avoid touching their face with unwashed or unsanitized hands.
   - Post “handwashing” and “cover your cough” signs.

2. Ensure handwashing and/or hand-sanitizer facilities are readily available and allow workers sufficient time to engage in handwashing/sanitizing.

3. Ensure supplies in restrooms, portable toilets and handwashing/sanitizing stations are regularly monitored and continually stocked.

4. Provide tissues or towels for proper cough and sneeze etiquette and provide no-touch trash bins.

5. Require workers to wear a face covering as required by Executive Order. As of July 25, 2020, per the Governor’s Executive Order 20-81, people in Minnesota will be required to wear a face covering in all indoor businesses and public indoor spaces, including when in vehicles used for business purposes, unless alone. Additionally, the Executive Order requires workers to wear face coverings when working in outdoor settings in situations where social distancing (i.e., keeping at least 6 feet of physical distance from other individuals not in the same household) cannot be maintained. This Executive Order also requires workers, customers, or visitors to wear a face covering when a business has opted impose stricter face covering requirements than the Executive Order or when the applicable industry guidance requires wearing a face covering.

This Executive Order includes exemptions for people who are unable to wear or tolerate a face covering due to medical or mental health condition or other reasons—such as when wearing a face covering would create a job hazard. There are also situations in which a face covering may be temporarily removed. More information about face covering requirements and exemptions is available on the MDH website at Facemasks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Webpage [https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/prevention.html#masks](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/prevention.html#masks). You can also visit these webpages: Face Covering Requirements and Recommendations under Executive Order 20-81 [https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecover.html](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecover.html) and Frequently Asked Questions About the Requirement to Wear Face Coverings [https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecoverfaq.html](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecoverfaq.html)
6. Workers should maintain an adequate number of face-coverings during their shift to change face-coverings as they become saturated, dirty, or compromised.


8. Provide protective supplies when required, including non-medical source-control face coverings, gloves, disinfectant, guards and shields to protect workers against the transmission of COVID-19 while they are working.

9. Do not discriminate or retaliate in any way against any worker for wearing face-coverings or personal protective equipment, in accordance with Executive Order 20-54.

10. Doors to multi-stall restrooms should be able to be opened and closed without touching the handles, opening-devices, or powered door-operators with the hand, whenever possible. If the door cannot be opened without touching the handle or door-operator with the hand, the business must ensure a trash-receptacle is placed by the door to ensure a paper towel can be readily disposed of when operating the door. The location and positioning of waste-receptacles should not interfere with Life Safety requirements (e.g. egress, evacuation, emergency equipment) or any reasonable accommodations provided under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

11. Community drinking stations and water-fountains must not be available or used unless protocols are implemented to ensure frequent sanitation between users. Touchless water-filling stations may still be provided.

12. Food must not be served nor shared communally.

13. Instruct workers to launder their clothing, uniforms, apparel and personal protective equipment (PPE) daily according to clothing or detergent instructions. Encourage workers to maintain additional apparel at work (e.g. shirts, sweatshirts) to minimize cross-exposure between work areas or locations.

14. Ensure proper respiratory protection is still provided, used and maintained to protect workers from other recognized health hazards as required (e.g. hazardous chemicals, particulates, and dust, respirable silica, lead, asbestos).

Recommendations

1. Encourage workers to maintain additional apparel at work (e.g. shirts, sweatshirts) to minimize cross-exposure.

2. Encourage workers to sanitize high touch-points within their personal vehicle (e.g. handles, locks, steering-wheels, instrument-controls, switches, seatbelt) upon entering.

WORKPLACE BUILDING AND VENTILATION PROTOCOLS

Requirements

General Building Conditions: Businesses must assess the status and capacities of the utility-systems within the building (e.g. ventilation, water-supply, sewer, gas), as well as potential issues associated with vermin, molds, and mildew, prior to putting the building into an operational status.
1. Follow established protocols for starting mechanical, electrical, plumbing, life-safety, and other systems after non-use according to the Authorities Having Jurisdiction.

2. Assess the building for indications of pest and vermin infestation, and consult a pest-control professional as appropriate.


**Ventilation System Start-up**: Businesses must evaluate the operational capacity, and increase, improve, and maintain ventilation provided throughout the building.

1. Increase the outdoor air-percentage to increase dilution of contaminants, and eliminate recirculating, whenever possible, while maintaining indoor air-conditions.

2. For heating-ventilation-air-conditioning systems that recirculate air, businesses need to improve central-air filtration to at least the MERV-13 or the highest compatible with the filter rack (at least MERV-14 preferred), and seal the edges of filters to further limit by-pass around the filters.

3. Replace and upgrade air filters prior to re-occupancy.

4. Run systems on full economizer as outside air-conditions allow.

**Day-To-Day Operations**: Once systems are in a safe operational status, businesses should ensure the following practices and protocols are maintained:

1. Continuously maximize fresh-air into the workplace, and eliminate air recirculation.

2. Maintain relative humidity levels of RH 40-60%

3. Add a flush cycle to the controls of the HVAC system, and run HVAC systems for 2-hours before and after occupancy.

4. Minimize air-flow from blowing across people.

**Recommendations**

1. Check and rebalance the HVAC system to provide negative air-pressure whenever possible.

2. Supplement ventilation-system with the use of portable HEPA filter units whenever possible.

3. Keep systems running longer hours (24/7 if possible) to enhance the ability to filter contaminants out of the air.

4. Consult an HVAC professional or the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers to ensure proper ventilation is provided, and ventilation-systems are properly maintained. See ASHRAE’s COVID-19 Preparedness Resources (https://www.ashrae.org/technical-resources/resources).

**WORKPLACE CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOLS**

**Requirements**

1. Establish a documented sanitation schedule and checklist, identifying surfaces/equipment to be sanitized, the agent to be used, and the frequency at which sanitation occurs.

2. Routinely clean and disinfect all areas, such as offices, restrooms, locker and changing rooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment, machinery, tools, controls, etc.
3. Frequently clean and disinfect all high-touch items, such as doorknobs, countertops, barriers, railings, handles, and other surfaces.

4. Clean and disinfect work-vehicles in-between the use of each worker or work-crew, before and after each use.

5. Electronic devices (e.g. light-switches, circuit-breakers) should not be cleaned and disinfected with a liquid agent. Consider covering switches/devices with a poly-covering that allows the user to manipulate the device without touching the switch, and change out the poly-covering frequently. Electronic devices must be sanitized only when disconnected from the power-source, and sanitized in accordance with the listing/labeling requirements.

6. Whenever possible, assign a designated user/operator for each station, machine or piece of equipment as opposed to allowing several users/operators to share stations, machines, or pieces of equipment. If stations, machines, or pieces of equipment must be shared, disinfect between users.


8. Select appropriate and ensure the needed supply of disinfectants – consider effectiveness and safety. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) List N has identified a list of products that meet EPA’s criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2. See EPA’s List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2).

9. Ensure all trash, refuse and debris is regularly disposed of and not allowed to accumulate, to minimize the number of workers involved in the handling and disposal of materials.

10. Review product labels and Safety Data Sheets, follow manufacturer specifications, and use required personal protective equipment for the product.

**Recommendations**

1. Personal equipment, tools and phones should not be shared or, if shared, should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

2. Encourage workers to sanitize high-touch points within their personal vehicle (e.g. handles, locks, steering-wheels, instrument controls, switches, seatbelt) upon entering.

**DROP-OFF, PICK-UP AND DELIVERY PRACTICES AND PROTOCOL**

**Requirements**

1. Workers must maintain a distance six feet or greater from others during interactions while receiving or exchanging deliveries.

2. Businesses receiving deliveries must do so via a contactless method whenever possible, including deliveries at loading docks, reception areas and locations where workers can maintain a distance of at least six feet from each other.

3. Whenever possible, businesses should attempt to do everything electronically (e.g. app, phone) to eliminate the need for close contact between workers and delivery personnel.
4. Businesses providing deliveries must provide for contactless deliveries that promote delivery at a doorstep or similar location where persons can maintain a distance at least 6-feet away while verifying receipt of the delivery between the worker and the delivery person.

5. Workers must minimize the unnecessary exchanging or sharing of scanners, pens, or other tools with delivery personnel.

6. Refer to additional guidance specific to “Transportation, Distribution, and Delivery Services” for delivery-based activities and services.

**Recommendations**

1. Consider establishing delivery or pick-up locations outside of the building to minimize delivery personnel having to enter.

2. Provide accommodations for drop-offs, pickups and deliveries, and delivery workers, and minimize the need for delivery workers to enter the building (e.g. drop-off windows, secured lockers, teller-windows, portable toilets).

**COMMUNICATIONS AND TRAINING PRACTICES AND PROTOCOL**

**Requirements**

1. All workers and members of management must be trained regarding COVID-19 exposure, as well as applicable policies, procedures, practices, and protocols. The training must be provided by and paid for by the business. The training must be provided in a manner and language that each employee can understand, and must be adjusted to reasonably accommodate all limiting factors present. See “OSHA’s Resource for Development and Delivery of Training to Workers” (osha.gov/Publications/osha3824.pdf). See also Minnesota’s “Small Assemblies for Testing and Training” for guidance with facilitating training for employees while addressing COVID-19 implications (dli.mn.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/COVID-19_training_facilities.pdf).

2. Ensure their respective COVID-19 Preparedness Plans are posted at all worksites where workers are present, in readily accessible locations, and are shared with and reviewed by all workers. Posting may be accomplished through electronic dissemination of the plan to all workers as long as workers have access means to review electronic posting.

3. Ensure the required rules, protocols and practices are communicated to their workers and adequately enforce their provisions.

4. Ensure the required rules, protocols and practices are required by businesses providing temporary, part-time, seasonal and contract workers to the business.

5. Ensure their workers are provided with and use personal protective equipment necessary to perform their work.

6. Use signage as reminders for workers, delivery workers, officials, customers, clients, and visitors of rules, protocols and practices, including not to enter the business if they have COVID-19 symptoms, social distancing, handwashing, use of source control face coverings and respiratory etiquette.

7. Workers must ensure they comply with and follow established rules and practices.
Recommendations

1. Communication to educate customers/clients about the steps being taken for their protection to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 is strongly encouraged. Protective measures should be communicated to customers and clients prior to, and at the start of, their appointment to both educate customers and visitors as well as inform them of their role in protecting the workers and all other persons.

2. Provide for on-going periodic audible announcements to customers, clients, and visitors to remind of social distancing protections and protocol.

Helping clients, customers, and visitors minimize transmission

Requirements

1. Post signage at the entry into the business, and provide additional messaging (e.g. web-sites, advertisements, marketing), that if customers/clients do not feel well or have any symptoms compatible with COVID-19, they must refrain from coming to the business and are strongly encouraged to stay home. They must also refrain from coming to the business, and are encouraged to stay home, if they have a household member experiencing symptoms compatible with COVID-19. Refer to CDC’s What to Do if You are Sick or Caring for Someone Who is Sick (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/index.html).

2. If customers, clients, or visitors begin to feel unwell while in the business, they must leave immediately. If a customer, client, or visitor is a member of a household group at the business, the household group must also leave. See CDC’s Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), May 2020 (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html).

3. Advise customers, clients, and visitors to wash and/or sanitize their hands upon entering the business, and to regularly wash and/or sanitize their hands while at the business.

4. Require patrons and visitors wear a face covering, when required by Executive Order 20-81. More information about face covering requirements and exemptions is available on the MDH website at Facemasks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Webpage (https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/PPE#masks). You can also visit these webpages: Face Covering Requirements and Recommendations under Executive Order 20-81 (https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecover.html) and Frequently Asked Questions About the Requirement to Wear Face Coverings (https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecoverfaq.html). Cloth face coverings are NOT a substitute for maintaining a physical distance of 6-feet from other people. For additional information about cloth face covering and how to make, wear and wash them, refer to CDC guidance on cloth face coverings (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html).

5. Make sure each piece of equipment (e.g. terminals, carts, touch-screens) is wiped down before and after each use by a customer, client or visitor, and dispose of the wipe accordingly.

Recommendations
TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION AND DELIVERY SERVICES

1. Limit the number of persons accompanying the customer/client while in the business and/or at the time services are being provided.

2. Limit the equipment, products, or items touched by the customer, client, and visitors while in business.

3. Advise and encourage customers, clients, and visitors to conduct a self-check of their body temperature the day of their appointment and/or prior to arriving to the business.

4. Unless otherwise required by other sector-specific guidance that applies (See “Personal Care Services”), encourage customers/clients to review a screening survey that checks for COVID-19 symptoms, close contacts with confirmed cases and quarantined cases, and out of state travel. The questions would be the same as those completed by workers. MDH’s Visitor and Employee Health Screening Checklist (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facilityhlthscreen.pdf).

5. Post signage at the entry into the business, and provide additional messaging (e.g. web-sites, advertisements, marketing), advising customers, clients, and visitors of “high risk” to strongly consider refraining coming to the business or postponing from the service. Persons who may be at higher risk for severe illness should consider delaying seeking or providing these services. (See People Who Are at Increased Risk for Severe Illness (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html).

Additional protections and protocols

ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS AND PROTOCOL FOR MANAGING OCCUPANCY WITHIN VEHICLES

Requirements

1. Limit the number of persons permitted in a vehicle at one time. Do not permit car-pooling or ride-sharing if the number and arrangement of occupants within a single vehicle does not allow for proper social-distancing.

2. Limit ride-sharing to those with reservations or advanced appointments as much as possible. Ensure protocols are established for impromptu requests to ensure the safety of the worker is maintained.

1. Encourage all persons of “high risk” to consider not using services unless necessary. Persons who may be at higher risk for severe illness should consider delaying seeking or providing these services (See People Who Are at Increased Risk for Severe Illness (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html).

2. Post signage within passenger vehicles outlining established protocols.

3. Advise all persons to conduct a self-check of their body temperature prior to using the service.

Recommendations

1. Advertise business protocols so that all persons, including workers and customers, are aware of changes.
2. Advise all persons, including workers and visitors, of the added COVID-19 precautions that will be taken. Use web-sites, social media, pre-planning meetings, phone calls and confirmations, and other outlets to educate all persons on the steps being taken for their protection and the protection of all workers and customers.

**ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL FOR THE USE OF FACE COVERINGS**

**Requirements**

1. Evaluate work activities to ensure social distancing can maintained, and identify those activities where social distancing is difficult to maintain to determine if they can be done in an alternative way. Work activities must not be performed if adequate protective measures cannot be implemented.

2. Workers must wear a face covering that covers their mouth and nose in accordance with Executive Order 20-81. This Executive Order requires everyone—including workers—to wear a face covering in indoor businesses and indoor public spaces. Additionally, the Executive Order requires workers to wear face coverings when working in outdoor settings in situations where social distancing (i.e., keeping at least 6 feet of physical distance from other individuals not in the same household) cannot be maintained. This Executive Order includes exemptions for people who are unable to wear or tolerate a face covering due to medical or mental health condition or other reasons—such as when wearing a face covering would create a job hazard. There are also situations in which a face covering may be temporarily removed. More information about face covering requirements and exemptions is available on the MDH website at Facemasks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Webpage [Facemasks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Webpage](health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/prevention.html#masks).

3. Instruct workers to:
   - Maintain an adequate number of face-coverings during their shift or work-day that allows the worker to exchange face-coverings as they become saturated, dirty, or compromised during use.

4. Businesses must take reasonable steps to ensure that workers, customers, clients and visitors wear face coverings in accordance with Executive Order 20-81, and conspicuously post face covering policies for workers, customers, clients and visitors. Cloth face coverings are NOT a substitute for maintaining a physical distance of 6-feet from other people.

5. Ensure workers involved in team-driving or ride-alongs wear face-coverings at all times while inside the vehicle in accordance with Executive Order 20-81.

6. Ensure all persons, including customers, clients, and visitors bring their own face coverings, or offer face coverings for use.

7. Establish a protocol for accommodating workers who cannot wear a face covering due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability. Businesses must comply with applicable law, including civil rights laws, relating to verification of a worker’s disability or medical condition.
If a worker is unable to use a face covering due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability, then the business must engage with the worker to identify and implement alternative protections as to ensure the worker, as well as other customers, visitors, and workers, maintain a similar level of protection (e.g. face-shields, isolating the worker, job-reassignment).

8. Establish protocols for addressing instances where the use of a face-covering may present a hazard to the worker, and identifying and implementing alternatives to minimize the risk to the worker. However, the business must work to identify and implement alternative protections as to ensure the worker, as well as customers, visitors, and other workers, maintain a similar level of protection whenever possible.

- For environments involving extreme temperatures (e.g. heat, cold) and/or wet environments (e.g. wet processes, rain), face shields may be considered to be used in lieu of face-coverings.

- For work-activities that may present a risk of entanglement, businesses must ensure the machine/tool is properly guarded as to eliminate the risk of the face-covering becoming entangled into the machine/tool, and that the selection and use of the face-covering protects the worker from the risk of entanglement (e.g. using ear-loops instead of tie-backs).

- For work-activities that may present a risk of hazardous chemicals becoming absorbed and/or saturated within the materials of face-covering, the use of engineering controls (e.g. ventilation), administrative controls (e.g. work-practices), or personal protective equipment (e.g. respiratory protection) must be considered and implemented whenever possible.

9. Establish a protocol for accommodating customers, clients and visitors who cannot wear a face covering due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability. Businesses may not require customers to provide proof of a medical condition mental health condition, or disability, or require customers to explain the nature of their conditions or disability.

10. Establish a protocol for customers, clients and visitors who refuse to wear a face covering where wearing a face covering is required. Businesses may refuse entry or services to customers, clients, or visitors who refuse to wear a face covering when required by Executive Order 20-81 or when otherwise required by the business even if not required by the Executive Order. Refer to the documents and information available at Facemasks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/prevention.html#masks) for more information about what a business may or may not do to enforce face covering requirement.

**Recommendations**

1. Additional work practices to further reduce face-to-face interaction, which may be used to supplement social-distancing protections and protocol, may include:

   - Installing/Maintaining barriers or screens to separate workers from customers, clients, and visitors.
   - Standing to the side or behind the customers, clients, and visitors as much as possible.

**ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS AND PROTOCOL FOR EXCHANGING OR RECEIVING PAYMENT**
Requirements

1. Use contactless payment whenever possible. Utilize an electronic fund-transfer service or credit-card payment method that allows the customer/client to fully initiate and complete the payment transaction remotely, or while separated from the worker.

2. When contactless payment is not possible, payment must be made in a manner that allows for at least 6-feet of distance between the worker and customer/client.

3. During check-in and check-out, the configuration at the payment stations, and the space between the worker and the customer/client must allow for physical distancing of at least 6-feet, or a physical barrier must be installed.

4. Install barriers at check-in and payment counters.

5. Establish social queuing to provide and promote social distancing between multiple clients/customers congregating or waiting in line for transactions (e.g. markings on the floor, stanchions).

ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS AND PROTOCOL FOR RIDESHARE, TAXIES, LIMOS, AND OTHER PASSENGER DRIVERS-FOR-HIRE

1. Avoid car-pooling or ride-sharing with multiple passengers, particularly those who would not otherwise be riding together on the same route. Do not permit car-pooling or ride-sharing if the number and arrangement of occupants within a single vehicle does not allow for proper social-distancing.

2. Reduce the number of deliveries and/or stops on routes to accommodate and allow ample time for cleaning and disinfecting.

3. Ensure passengers sit in seating behind the driver; do not allow passengers sit in the front seat next to the driver.

4. Avoid close contact between workers with passengers, whenever possible.
   ▪ Maintain a distance of at least six feet between workers and passengers when outside the vehicle.
   ▪ Ensure passengers sit six feet from the driver when transporting passengers in larger vehicles (e.g. vans, buses).
   ▪ Request passengers to handle their own personal bags and belongings during pick-up and drop-off, including while stowing in compartments.

5. Transport passengers in vehicles that maintain partitions in-between the worker and passenger (i.e. partition between the front-seat and back-seat) whenever available.

6. Avoid recirculating the air within the vehicle while transporting passengers; Use the vehicle’s ventilation system to exchange fresh-air in from outside the vehicle; Lower the vehicles windows whenever practical.

7. Avoid offering or exchanging items with passengers (e.g. water bottles, magazines).
8. Clean and disinfect work-vehicles in accordance with an established sanitation schedule, including in-between the use of each worker or work-crew, and before and after each use.

9. Avoid contacting high-touch surfaces frequently touched by passengers or other workers (e.g. door frame/handles, arm-rests, windows, seat-covers, head-rests, seat-belts and buckles, steering wheel, gearshift, signaling levers, visors, radio-panels, instrument-panels, temperature controls, air-ducts) before cleaning and disinfection.

10. Clean and disinfect frequently touched or “high touch” surfaces in the vehicle at the beginning of each shift until properly cleaned and disinfected.

11. Clean and disinfect seating areas and high-touch surfaces in-between passengers.

12. Maintain cleaning and disinfectant agents, disposable wipes, and disposal trash bags inside vehicles.

13. Require passengers to wear a face-covering at all times while inside the vehicle unless not recommended for health or physical ability reasons.

14. Ask the passenger to dispose of their trash and materials upon exiting the vehicle.

ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS AND PROTOCOL FOR DELIVERY DRIVERS – FOOD, GROCERY, PACKAGE, PARCEL AND MAIL

1. Workers must practice social distancing with persons, including workers and customers, as much as possible when picking up food, groceries, or other items at restaurants or grocery stores. If social distancing is not able to be practiced, consider the workers at restaurants or grocery-stores to deliver the order to the worker’s vehicle to avoid the worker needing to enter the restaurant or grocery store.

2. Reduce the number of deliveries and/or stops on routes to accommodate and allow ample time for cleaning and disinfecting.

3. Practice contactless deliveries whenever and where ever possible. Contactless deliveries allow workers to leave a delivery at a doorstep, and then retreating or moving back to a distance greater than 6 feet away from the doorway and/or customer while verifying receipt of the delivery with the customer receiving the delivery.

4. Whenever possible, workers should attempt to do everything electronically (e.g. app, phone) to eliminate the need for close contact between workers and delivery personnel.

5. Workers must maintain social distancing from customers and other persons that they encounter during the delivery, including those they might meet or need to speak to while making deliveries.

6. Workers should limit contact as much as possible with frequently touched surfaces during pickups and deliveries, including but not limited to countertops, elevator buttons, doorbells, buzzers, door handles, gates, mail-boxes, drop-boxes, radio buttons, etc. Furthermore, workers should use a foot, shoulder, elbow, hip, or forearm when opening doors, instead of hands, whenever possible and safe to do so.

7. Avoid sharing scanners, mobile-devices, touch-pads, pens, or other tools with customers. Sanitize these items if shared with a delivery recipient immediately after each use.
8. Clean and disinfect work-vehicles in accordance with an established sanitation schedule, including in-between the use of each worker or work-crew, and before and after each use.

9. Avoid contacting high-touch surfaces frequently touched by passengers or other workers (e.g. door frame/handles, arm-rests, windows, seat-covers, head-rests, seat-belts and buckles, steering wheel, gearshift, signaling levers, visors, radio-panels, instrument-panels, temperature controls, air-ducts) before cleaning and disinfection.

10. Clean and disinfect frequently touched or “high touch” surfaces in the vehicle at the beginning of each shift until properly cleaned and disinfected.

11. Maintain cleaning and disinfectant agents, disposable wipes, and disposal trash bags inside vehicles.

**ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS AND PROTOCOL FOR IN-HOME DELIVERY SERVICES – FURNITURE, APPLIANCES**

**Requirements**

1. Have all occupants present within the residence respond to the screening survey questions prior to or upon arrival and verify they have read the screening survey and can respond “no” to all questions. Decline to enter the residence and proceed with the services if there is any suspicion that occupants are sick or symptomatic and leave the residence.

2. Encourage that services be postponed for residences where “high risk” and vulnerable populations are residing, unless proper protective measures can be established. See CDC’s People Who are at Higher Risk for Severe Illness ([People Who Are at Increased Risk for Severe Illness](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html)).

3. Provide the services outdoors, rather than indoors, whenever possible.

4. Ensure proper social distancing is maintained between all workers and occupants of the residence where the work is being performed or the service is being provided.

5. Physical contact between workers and occupants must be avoided at all times, unless necessitated by the service.

6. Per Executive Order 20-81, workers must always wear a face covering when providing in-home services. For additional information about cloth face coverings and how to make, wear and wash them, refer to CDCs [Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html).

7. Strongly encourage occupants of the residence, who are present while workers are inside of the home, to wear face coverings unless not recommended for health or physical ability reasons.

8. Ensure workers regularly wash and/or sanitize their hands. Workers should wash their hands upon entering the residence, before and after eating and meal periods, before and after restroom breaks, upon exiting the residence and prior to entering their vehicle.

9. Frequently clean and disinfect all high-touch items, such as doorknobs, countertops, railings, handles and other surfaces.

**Recommendations**
1. Communication to educate landlords, homeowners, tenants and occupants about the steps being taken for their protection while providing in-home services to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 is encouraged. Communicate protective measures to homeowners, tenants and occupants prior to entering the residence to both educate the occupants and inform them of their role in protecting the workers.

2. Encourage occupants to minimize the number of persons present while workers are entering and working inside the residence.

**ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS AND PROTOCOL FOR OVER-THE-ROAD AND LONG-HAUL TRUCK-DRIVERS**

1. Workers, including drivers, must practice social distancing with persons, including other workers, customers, and members of the public, as much as possible when picking up deliveries, loads, or trailers. Workers should avoid physical contact other persons, including customers and other workers (e.g. shaking hands).

2. Reduce the number of deliveries and/or stops on routes to accommodate and allow ample time for cleaning and disinfecting.

3. Limit time spent outside of the delivery truck or cab during loading, unloading, and refueling, and at weigh-stations, truck-stops, and rest-areas.

4. Pack food, water, and supplies to limit the number of stops.

5. Whenever possible, businesses should attempt to do everything electronically (e.g. app, phone) to eliminate the need for close contact between delivery personnel and workers or personnel at the pick-up or drop-off site.

6. Contact customers, addresses, businesses or work-sites in advance to make an appointment for the pick-up, drop-off, and unloading of deliveries. Use radio/phone to talk with customers, dock managers or other drivers, if possible.

7. Avoid unnecessary ride-sharing and car-pooling involving co-workers within work vehicles whenever possible. Do not permit car-pooling or ride-sharing if the number and arrangement of occupants within a single vehicle does not allow for proper social-distancing.

8. Minimize team-driving or ride-alongs by allowing for additional time for rest-stops and stays in hotels.

9. Avoid the sharing of the sleeper berth inside of cabs.

10. Workers should not share equipment, including devices, safety equipment, and personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g. high-visibility vests, safety glasses, hard hats, tools, phones, radios).

11. Clean and disinfect truck-cabs and delivery-trucks in accordance with an established sanitation schedule, including in-between the use of each worker or team-driver, and before and after each use.

12. Avoid contacting frequently touched or “high-touch” surfaces in the truck-cab that may be frequently touched by other workers (e.g. door frame/handles, arm-rests, windows, seat-covers,
head-rests, seat-belts and buckles, steering wheel, gearshift, signaling levers, visors, radio-panels, instrument-panels, temperature controls, air-ducts) before cleaning and disinfection.

13. Avoid contacting frequently touched or “high-touch” surfaces in the sleeper berth that may be frequently touched by other workers (e.g. light-switches, mattress tray, temperature controls, curtain rods/handles, other flat surfaces) before cleaning and disinfection.

14. Clean and disinfect frequently touched or “high touch” surfaces throughout the vehicle at the beginning of each shift until properly cleaned and disinfected.

15. If a third party must access to the interior of a truck-cab or delivery truck (e.g. mechanics, other drivers, inspectors), request that the third party clean and disinfect the truck before turning it back over to the workers.


17. Pre-verify and pre-screen hotels and truck-stops to ensure appropriate COVID-19 protections and protocols have been implemented to protect workers.
Appendix A – Guidance for developing an Employer Preparedness Plan

General


Minnesota Department of Health (MDH): Coronavirus – www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus


Businesses


MDH: Materials for businesses and employers – www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/materials


Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI): Updates related to COVID-19 – www.dli.mn.gov/updates


AIHA Back to Work Safely – www.backtowork safely.org/

Handwashing

MDH: Handwashing video translated into multiple languages – www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdQuPGVcecg

Respiratory etiquette: Cover your cough or sneeze

CDC: www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/etiquette/coughing_sneezing.html

MDH: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/prevention.html

Social distancing

MDH: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/businesses.html

Housekeeping


Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2

Employees exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19

MDH: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/basics.html
MDH: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facilityhlthscreen.pdf
MDH: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/returntowork.pdf


Training


MDH: www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/about.pdf