

# SEATTLE/KING COUNTY BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

Chartered by Building and Construction Trades Dept • AFL-CIO

Telephone (206) 441-0550 FAX (206) 443-5649

14675 Interurban Ave. S., Suite 101

Tukwila, WA 98168

E-Mail: [sbctc@seattlebuildingtrades.org](mailto:sbctc@seattlebuildingtrades.org)

[www.seattlebuildingtrades.org](http://www.seattlebuildingtrades.org)

CHRIS MCCLAIN, President

MONTY ANDERSON, Executive Secretary



## COVID-19 Construction Industry Emergency Requirements – Version 4-2-2020

Construction industry project Owners shall require that contractors develop a comprehensive COVID-19 exposure control, mitigation, and recovery plan, which includes control measures such as enhanced PPE utilization; social distancing; symptom checking; hygiene; decontamination procedures; post incident recovery and sanitation; and training. Training should cover the hazards and control measures including social distancing, handwashing facilities on site, how high-touch surfaces are disinfected, and post incident project wide recovery.

An exposure control plan and the following practices must be followed before any onsite worker is found to have COVID-19 and to prevent any onsite worker from contracting COVID-19, as many people with COVID-19 are asymptomatic and can potentially spread disease. **Failure to comply with this guidance shall be deemed as creating unsafe conditions and will result in projects not re-opening or the shutting down of the construction site until corrected and maintained.**

The Owner shall verify compliance with these guidelines prior to projects re-opening and during regular scheduled inspections for projects under construction as well as during investigations associated with complaints that may be submitted to the Owner and the Department of Labor and Industries. Call center number for complaints: **1-800-423-7233**; or submit via e-mail to Linda Adame at [adag235@lni.wa.gov](mailto:adag235@lni.wa.gov)

1. The owner/contractor shall designate a site-specific COVID-19 Supervisor at every job site to enforce this guidance. A designated COVID-19 Supervisor shall be present on the construction site at all times during construction activities.
2. Preclude gatherings of any size, and any time two or more persons must meet, ensure minimum 6 feet of separation.
3. Provide personal protective equipment such as gloves, goggles, face shields and face masks as appropriate for the activity being performed.
4. Workers working near or with others in close quarters, such as confined space work, should wear a NIOSH-approved respirator certified as N95 or higher implemented under a full respiratory protection program.
5. If appropriate PPE cannot be provided, the job must be shut down.
6. Identify “choke points” and “high-risk areas” where workers are forced to stand together, such as hallways, hoists and elevators, break areas and buses, and control them so social distancing is maintained.

7. Conduct a Safety Stand-Down/toolbox talk/tailgate training on all job sites to explain the protective measures in place for all workers. Keep social distancing at all gatherings. Distribute these requirements and all COVID-19 related contact information in writing to each worker within the first day of returning to work.
8. Minimize interactions when picking up or delivering equipment or materials, ensure minimum 6-foot separation.
9. Stagger the trades as necessary to reduce density and maintain minimum 6-foot separation social distancing.
10. Ask workers to self-identify symptoms of fever, coughing, or shortness of breath each day, before the shift, mid-shift, and at home. If thermometers are used on the job, they shall be 'no touch' or 'no contact.'
11. Soap and running water shall be abundantly provided on all job sites for frequent handwashing. Provide alcohol-based hand sanitizers with greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol as a backup only if providing running water is impossible. **Disclose reasons why running water is not possible to workers.** Workers should be encouraged to leave their workstations to wash their hands before and after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing their nose.
12. Post, in areas visible to all workers, required hygienic practices including not touch face with unwashed hands or with gloves; washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces such as workstations, keyboards, telephones, handrails, machines, shared tools, elevator control buttons, and doorknobs; covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing as well as other hygienic recommendations by the CDC.
13. Make disinfectants available to workers throughout the worksite and ensure supplies are frequently replenished.
14. Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces on job sites and in offices—such as shared tools, machines, vehicles and other equipment, handrails, doorknobs, and portable toilets—frequently. If these areas cannot be cleaned and disinfected frequently, the jobsite shall be shut down until such measures can be achieved and maintained.
15. Create policies which encourage workers to stay home or leave the worksite when feeling sick or when they have been in close contact with a confirmed positive case. If someone goes home from the site, the area where that person worked should be immediately disinfected.
16. Failure of employees to comply will result in employees being sent home during the emergency actions.
17. Have employees inform their supervisors if they have sick family member at home with COVID-19.
18. Employees who do not believe it is safe to work shall be allowed to remove themselves from the project, allowed full access to the emergency benefits for workers during these emergency actions, and have no retaliatory actions against them moving forward.
19. Maintain a daily attendance log of all workers and visitors.
20. Failure of employers to provide materials, schedules, and equipment to meet these terms will result in closing of that employers' project operations for the duration of the emergency, or until the employer can provide and maintain all such requirements.