COVID-19 Information for Employers and Employees

Employee Screening for COVID-19

To help protect the public against the spread of COVID-19, Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, strongly recommend that all employees perform a daily symptom assessment each day before work by following these steps:

• All employees who are able to work from home should be working from home.

• For those employees who must report: take your temperature with a thermometer each day. If you have a fever at or above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, stay home. Also monitor for coughing and trouble breathing and stay home if they occur. Call a doctor or use telemedicine if your symptoms concern you.
  o Employees can return to work when they meet ALL THREE of the following criteria:
    ▪ They have had NO fever for at least three (3) days without taking medication to reduce fever during that time.
    ▪ There is improvement in their respiratory symptoms (cough and shortness of breath) for three (3) days.
    ▪ At least seven (7) days have passed since their symptoms began.

• It is best to use a touchless thermometer (forehead/ temporal artery thermometer) if possible, but if you must use oral or another type of thermometer, make sure to clean it thoroughly between each use.
  o Follow the manufacturer’s directions to disinfect the thermometer.
  o If no directions are available, rinse the tip of the thermometer in cold water, clean it with alcohol or alcohol swabs, and then rinse it again.

• There is currently a shortage on thermometers. If you cannot find a thermometer, monitor for symptoms of respiratory infection (fever, cough, shortness of breath).
  ▪ If you do not have symptoms, proceed to work.
  ▪ If you do have symptoms, stay home from work until you meet all of the above criteria.
  ▪ If you do have symptoms, but have a known cause (asthma, COPD,
chronic sinusitis, etc.) and HAVE NOT been exposed to someone with confirmed COVID-19 proceed to work.

- If you do have symptoms, but have a known cause (asthma, COPD, chronic sinusitis, etc.) and HAVE been exposed to someone with confirmed COVID-19, stay home for 14 days from the time you were exposed.

- If at any time a doctor confirms the cause of a fever or other symptoms is not COVID-19 and approves an employee’s return to work, then the employee can return.

- Please remember to continue to follow preventative measures no matter how many employees are in the workplace — physical distancing, stay home when sick, use cough and sneeze etiquette, and practice hand hygiene as often as possible. Clean all high-touch surfaces regularly.

For additional information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call the COVID-19 CareLine at 1-800-720-9616.

Additional Resources:
How to take your temperature from the Cleveland Clinic: https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/9959-thermometers-how-to-take-your-temperature.
Protect yourself and others from COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

- Stay home
- Practice social distancing
- Get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals
- Wash hands often with water and soap (20 seconds or longer)
- Dry hands with a clean towel or air dry your hands
- Cover your mouth with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands or after touching surfaces
- Clean and disinfect "high-touch" surfaces often
- Call before visiting your doctor
- Practice good hygiene habits

For more information, visit: coronavirus.ohio.gov