



Summer 2020

National News

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LATEST CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE FROM OSHA



June 2 RETAIL STOCKING AND LOADING:

OSHA has [issued an alert](#) listing safety tips employers can follow to protect stockroom and loading dock workers in the retail industry from exposure to the coronavirus. The new alert is available for download in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Guidelines For Social Distancing at Work

May 28



[English](#) [Spanish](#)

[Interim COVID-19 Guidance For Specific Worker Groups and their Employers](#)

June 3

AGRICULTURE: OSHA and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), issued a [joint Interim Guidance for Agriculture Workers and Employers](#). This guidance provides a template of action to protect agriculture workers from coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Agricultural employers can adapt these recommendations to protect workers at their particular work sites or in specific work operations. This interim guidance is based on what is currently known about COVID-19. CDC and the U.S. Department of Labor will update this guidance as needed and as additional information becomes available.

May 27

CONSTRUCTION: The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has launched a [new webpage](#) with coronavirus-related guidance for construction employers and workers. The guidance includes recommended actions to reduce the risk of exposure to the coronavirus. The webpage includes information regarding:

- Using physical barriers, such as walls, closed doors, or plastic sheeting, to separate workers from individuals experiencing signs or symptoms consistent with the coronavirus;
- Keeping in-person meetings (including toolbox talks and safety meetings) as short as possible, limiting the number of workers in attendance, and using social distancing practices;
- Screening calls when scheduling indoor construction work to assess potential exposures and circumstances in the work environment before worker entry;
- Requesting that shared spaces in home environments where construction activities are being performed, or other construction areas in occupied buildings, have good air flow; and
- Staggering work schedules, such as alternating workdays or extra shifts, to reduce the total number of employees on a job site at any given time and to ensure physical distancing.





Click [here](#) for the CDC's Opening Up America Again Guidelines

[General COVID-19 Guidance and Resources from OSHA](#)

Call John Olaechea (720-264-6586) or send an e-mail to olaechea.john@dol.gov to subscribe or to submit, comments, questions or suggestions about the newsletter.

Revised Guidance Documents for Recordkeeping and Enforcement during the Pandemic

RECORDKEEPING

The new memorandum entitled [Revised Enforcement Guidance for Recording Cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (COVID-19) provides updated interim guidance to Compliance Safety and Health Officers (CSHOs) for enforcing the requirements of 29 CFR Part 1904 with respect to the recording of occupational illnesses, specifically cases of COVID-19. On May 26, 2020, the [previous memorandum](#) on this topic was rescinded, and this new memorandum went into and will remain in effect until further notice. This guidance is intended to be time-limited to the current COVID-19 public health crisis.

ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE PLAN

The new memorandum entitled [Updated Interim Enforcement Response Plan for Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) (COVID-19) provides instructions and guidance to Area Offices and compliance safety and health officers (CSHOs) for handling COVID-19-related complaints, referrals, and severe illness reports. On May 26, 2020, the [previous memorandum](#) on this topic was rescinded, and this new Updated Interim Enforcement Response Plan went into and will remain in effect until further notice. This guidance is intended to be time-limited to the current COVID-19 public health crisis.

NON-CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

SUSAN HARWOOD GRANTS: OSHA has [announced](#) the availability of \$11.5 million in Susan Harwood Training Grants. Applications must be submitted electronically through [Grants.gov](#) by **July 20, 2020**. Details on the grants and how to apply are available at [Grants.gov](#).

The funds are available for nonprofit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations, employer associations, labor unions, joint labor/management associations, Indian tribes, and colleges and universities. The Harwood Training Grant program supports in-person, hands-on training for workers and employers in small businesses; industries with high injury, illness, and fatality rates; and vulnerable workers, who are underserved, have limited English proficiency, or are temporary workers. The grants will fund training and education to help workers and employers identify and prevent workplace safety and health hazards, including the coronavirus.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE: The OSHA Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH) will meet July 1, 2020 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., ET, by teleconference and WebEx. In conjunction with the ACCSH meeting, ACCSH Workgroups will also meet by teleconference and WebEx on June 30, 2020. Comments and requests to speak at the ACCSH and ACCSH Workgroup meetings must be submitted by Thursday, June 25, 2020. ACCSH advises the Secretary of Labor and the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health in the formulation of standards affecting the construction industry. For more information please see the [Federal Register Notice](#).

Register for the **FREE OSHA-ASSP fall protection webinar** on **June 18, 2020 from 12-1:30 CST** (rescheduled from the postponed May 6 event). Provides CEUs in compliance with social distancing!