



COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Elsa Jimenez, Director of Health

Administration
Behavioral Health

Clinic Services
Emergency Medical Services
Environmental Health/Animal Services

Public Health
Public Administrator/Public Guardian

Nationally Accredited for Providing Quality Health Services

Health Advisory

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Updated 2019 Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Guidance for Businesses

Current Situation

Widespread community transmission is occurring in most areas of California including Monterey County. As of August 18, cases of COVID-19 have been reported in all areas of Monterey County and in all demographic groups. Monterey County is currently on the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH's) County Monitoring List (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/COVID19CountyMonitoringOverview.aspx>), which places additional restriction on how industry sectors may operate.

Recommendations

The Monterey County Health Department recommends that all business and industry sectors:

- Continue to institute prevention practices.
 - Provide paid sick leave or linkage to programs for paid leave (<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/FAQ-for-PSL.html>).
 - Conduct daily employee symptom screening.
 - Instruct employees with symptoms or diagnosis of COVID-19 to stay home.
 - Design workspaces to maximize social distancing and keep employees and customers at least 6 feet apart whenever possible.
 - Require face coverings when in public and shared spaces (https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Guidance-for-Face-Coverings_06-18-2020.pdf).
- Identify and manage exposures.
 - Review and understand California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace

Health Alert: Warrants immediate action or attention. **Health Advisory:** Provides information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action. **Health Update:** Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

(<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Workplace-Outbreak-Employer-Guidance.aspx>).

- Identify and notify all employees who were in close contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with staff while they were infectious.
- Refer employees who wish to be tested to their primary care provider or a community testing site (<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/health/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-testing-treatment-care>).
- Use CDPH guidance to determine when exposed and ill employees should return to work. (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Workplace-Outbreak-Employer-Guidance.aspx>).
 - A negative test should **not** be required to return to work. Individuals may test positive for weeks after they are no longer infectious.
- If an employer requires off-work or return-to-work notes, advise employees to obtain work notes from their primary care provider or their diagnosing/testing provider.
 - Monterey County Health Department will no longer be issuing return to work notes.
- Report suspected outbreaks (3 or more cases within 14 days) to the Monterey County Health Department by calling the Monterey County Health Department's COVID19 Call Center at 831-769-8700.

Additional Information

- CDC Business and Workplace Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html>
- CDPH Industry Sector-Specific Guidance for Opening: <https://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance/>
- CalOSHA Statewide Industry Guidance on COVID-19: <https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/Health-Care-General-Industry.html>
- Monterey County Health Department Workplace Exposure Guidance: <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=90872>
- Monterey County Health Department COVID-19 website: www.mtyhd.org