

UPDATED GUIDELINES ON CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES AND RELATED CONSTRUCTION/HOME REPAIR BUSINESSES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Please read these guidelines and limitations on the activities of persons and entities performing and/or involved in building construction and related businesses including all home repair businesses. Failure to adhere to COVID -19 guidelines for construction activities could lead to more prohibitive orders from federal, state, or local agencies.

1. Intent. The intent of these guidelines and limitations are to establish required protocols for construction sites, construction workers, and in-home repair businesses on how to prepare for and prevent the spread of COVID-19 to the maximum extent possible. These guidelines are based on CDC “Guidance for Businesses and Employers Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)” (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>); Cal/OSHA “Safety and Health Guidance – COVID-19 Infection Prevention in Construction” (<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus/COVID-19-Infection-Prevention-in-Construction.pdf>); applicable state and county public health orders; and other publications.
2. Construction Site COVID-19 Exposure Control Plans. All construction industry employers should develop a comprehensive COVID-19 exposure control plan, which includes control measures such as social distancing; symptom checking; hygiene; decontamination procedures, and training. An exposure control plan and the following practices must be followed to prevent any onsite worker from spreading or contracting COVID-19, as many people with COVID-19 are asymptomatic and can potentially spread the disease:
 - a. Practice social distancing by maintaining a minimum 6-foot distance from others.
 - b. Preclude gatherings of any size, and anytime two or more people must meet, ensure minimum 6-foot separation.
 - c. When minimum 6-foot separation cannot be reasonably achieved due to the physical conditions, those workers must be provided and must wear personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, face shields and face masks as appropriate for the activity being performed.
 - d. The owner/contractor shall designate a site specific COVID-19 Supervisor to enforce this guidance. A designated COVID-19 Supervisor must be

- physically present at the construction site, AT ALL TIMES, during construction activities. The COVID-19 Supervisor can be an on-site worker who is designated to carry this role.
- e. Identify “choke points” and “high-risk areas” where workers are forced to stand together, such as hallways, hoists and elevators, break areas, construction trailers, and buses, and control them so social distancing is maintained.
 - f. Discontinue the use of community water, coffee, or food. Refrain from sharing cups, pens, pencils, plan-sets, tablets, laptops, tools, or any other items that may carry germs.
 - g. Minimize interactions when picking up or delivering equipment or materials, ensure minimum 6-foot separation is maintained.
 - h. Stagger the trades as necessary to reduce density and maintain minimum 6-foot separation on social distancing.
 - i. Discourage workers from using other workers’ phones, desks, offices, work tools and equipment. If shared use is necessary, clean and disinfect them before and after each use.
 - j. Post, in areas visible to all workers, required hygienic practices including not touching face with unwashed hands or with gloves; washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; use of 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.
 - k. Place wash stations or hand sanitizers in multiple locations to encourage hand hygiene.
 - l. Require anyone on the project to stay home if they are sick, except to get medical care.
 - m. Require anyone on the project to stay home if they have a sick family member at home with COVID-19.
 - n. Maintain a daily attendance log of all workers and visitors.



- o. Make disinfectants available to workers throughout the worksite and ensure supplies are frequently replenished.
 - p. Require workers to wipe down tools, equipment and, if reasonable, worksite surfaces they contact with disinfectant, including mandatory cleaning of tools and equipment at end of work shift.
 - q. Require workers to wash clothing and other reflective gear regularly.
 - r. Use face coverings in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the County of Ventura (https://vcportal.ventura.org/CEO/VCNC/20-11-16_Revised_Face_Coverings_11.16.20_FINAL_PDF.pdf).
3. COVID-19 Exposure. Employees and subcontractors shall be required to leave the jobsite if they are displaying COVID-19 symptoms. Further, employees and subcontractors must not enter the jobsite if they have knowingly come into contact with anyone who has exhibited symptoms of the virus or have tested positive for the virus in the previous 2 weeks. COVID-19 symptoms include: fever; cough; shortness of breath; body aches; sore throat.
4. COVID-19 Supervisor. The owner/contractor must designate a site specific COVID-19 Supervisor to enforce this guidance. The COVID-19 Supervisor must be present on the construction site at all times during construction activities. The COVID-19 Supervisor can be an on-site worker who is designated to carry this role. The COVID-19 Supervisor is encouraged to frequently conduct site walks to ensure workers are complying with guidelines and, if any workers are exhibiting symptoms of illness, to instruct the worker to leave immediately. Supervisor or designee must also provide a copy of these written guidelines to any subcontractor working on site.
5. Subcontractor Compliance. Provide subcontractors a copy of these guidelines. Limit the amount of paperwork or materials exchanged between contractor and subcontractor to the extent reasonably possible. Subcontractors must agree not to enter the worksite if they have knowingly come into contact with anyone who has exhibited symptoms of the virus or have tested positive for the virus in the previous 2 weeks.
6. Occupied In-Home Repairs. All employees and subcontractors performing in-home repairs and/or remodels of occupied residences, including but not limited to appliance repairs, should be provided and should wear, at all times, personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, face shields and face masks as appropriate for the activity being performed. Such repairs and/or remodels should be limited to emergency repairs and/or remodels.



7. Jobsite Cleaning Supplies. Attempt to make sure hand soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels and disinfectant spray are available for all workers and maintain stock of such supplies at all times during working hours.
8. Definition of construction businesses. The terms “business” and “businesses” shall include all construction related businesses and trades and includes all in-home construction, HVAC, appliance repair businesses.
9. Continuing assessment. Federal, State, and Local Agencies will continue to assess the quickly evolving situation regarding the spread of COVID-19. These guidelines may be refined or superseded by additional executive orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
10. Copies of Guidelines. Copies of these guidelines shall promptly be displayed at the worksite and also made available to workers if requested.

