COVID-19 Guidance for Retail Workers

OSHA is committed to protecting the health and safety of America’s workers and workplaces during the COVID-19 pandemic. The agency is issuing a series of industry-specific alerts designed to help employers keep workers safe.

Take the following steps to reduce the risk of exposure to the coronavirus for workers in the retail industry (e.g., supermarkets, and big box stores):

- Provide and have all workers wear face coverings (i.e., cloth face coverings or surgical masks) that have at least two layers of tightly woven breathable fabric. Face coverings should be provided at no cost to workers.
- Instruct sick workers to stay home.
- Use a drive-through window or curbside pick-up.
- Implement physical distancing practices in all communal work areas.
- Install plexiglass partitions at counters and cash registers.
- Provide and ensure workers use the supplies necessary for good hygiene practices.
- Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and equipment.
- Provide workers and customers with tissues and trash receptacles.
- Train workers on COVID-19 policies and procedures in a language they understand.
- Ensure policies encourage workers to report safety and health concerns.

For the latest guidance and other resources on protecting workers from coronavirus, visit OSHA’s Protecting Workers Guidance.

OSHA issues alerts to draw attention to worker safety and health issues and solutions.