

COVID-19 Guidance for Nursing Home and Long-Term Care Facility 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 alerts designed to keep workers safe.

The following steps can help reduce exposure to the coronavirus for workers in nursing homes and long-term care facilities:

- Instruct sick workers to stay home.
- Screen workers and residents regularly for signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Quarantine workers and residents if they have been exposed to an individual with COVID-19.
- Follow CDC guidance on resident visitation policies.
- Ask visitors to inform the facility if they develop a fever or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within 14 days of their visit.
- Implement physical distancing practices to maintain at least six feet between workers/residents/visitors, including while workers perform their duties and during breaks.
- Stagger break periods to avoid crowding in breakrooms.
- Use alternatives to large in-person gatherings (e.g., staff meetings, resident activities).
- Have a qualified ventilation professional evaluate the building's HVAC system.
- Provide handwashing facilities and alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent ethanol or 70% isopropanol throughout the facility.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces in resident rooms, staff work stations, and common areas.
- Use hospital-grade cleaning chemicals.
- Ensure workers have and use any personal protective equipment (PPE) they need to perform their jobs safely.
- Continually monitor the facility's stock of PPE, burn rate, and supply chains. Develop a process for cleaning and decontaminating PPE, such as face shields and goggles, as appropriate.
- Train workers on COVID-19 policies and procedures in a language they understand.
- Ensure policies encourage workers to report any 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.