

Sheet Metal Industry Funds Guidance on COVID-19

In response to the construction industry's questions regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, the following are steps everyone should be taking now:

- Don't go to work if you are feeling sick.
- Don't shake hands when greeting others.
- Avoid large gatherings or meetings.
- Try to stay six feet away from others on job sites and in gatherings, meetings, and training sessions.
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissues if you cough or sneeze or do so into your elbow.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean your hands often by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%–95% alcohol. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly dirty.
- It is especially important to clean hands after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.

Construction industry employers should also:

- Create at least 6 feet of space between workers by staging/staggering crews to prevent droplet spread.
- Plan for office staff to have the ability to work from home.
- Provide soap and running water on all jobsites for frequent handwashing. If that is impossible, provide hand sanitizer.
- Provide access to potable and sanitary water.
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces on job sites and in offices—such as hand rails, door knobs, and portable toilets—frequently, per CDC guidelines.
- Conduct daily surveys of changes to staff/labor health conditions. Many leaders in the construction industry have implemented entry surveys of labor health conditions that have included temperature scans and in-person Q & A.
- Ensure that any identified first responders in the labor force are provided and use the needed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for protection from communicable or infectious disease.
- If you work in healthcare facilities, train your workers in Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA).
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Special guidance for older Americans and people with underlying health conditions:

- Older adults and those with underlying health conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease are more at risk of becoming very sick from COVID-19. CDC has additional recommendations for these individuals here: [HERE](#)

Additional links from our government and private partners:

From CPWR: [HERE](#)

From OSHA: [HERE](#)

From NIOSH: [HERE](#)

From CDC: [HERE](#)

From CDC for Employers about getting their businesses ready: [HERE](#)