



# IRMCA SAFETY ALERT

January 29, 2021

## [“Mitigating and Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in the Workplace”](#)

The **IRMCA Safety Committee** met to discuss the COVID impact and possible consequences to our IRMCA members related to past experiences in 2020, where things are today, and what precautions and pro-active measures should be considered for the future. Now that the vaccine is coming available, do you have any concerns or questions how to communicate that information to your employees?

Obviously these rules are subject to change on a daily basis, here are some questions put together by our safety committee that if followed, should keep you as safe and COVID free as possible.

1. Do you require employees to complete a wellness Declarations daily?  
<https://www.cdc.gov/screening/paper-version.pdf>
2. Are employees required to take their temperature prior to work daily?
3. When employees are working do you require them to wear masks?
4. Do you require employees to maintain social distance?
5. Have you had any employees that have tested positive for COVID-19?
6. Do you require employees to quarantine if they test positive for COVID-19?
7. Are employees required to quarantine if they are exposed to COVID-19?
8. Will you require employees to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine when available?

If you have questions or concerns and would like more information please email them to [irmca@irmca.org](mailto:irmca@irmca.org) Subject:**IRMCA Safety Committee** and we will get back to you.

### **More from NRMCA**

Moments ago, in following with President Biden’s January 21, 2021 [“Executive Order on Protecting Worker Health and Safety”](#), OSHA released new/updated guidance on [“Mitigating and Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in the Workplace”](#). While the new guidance is really just a retelling of what is already expected from previous OSHA COVID-19 guidance, it does contain more detail about how employers and employees should respond to COVID-19. The new guidance, as with previous OSHA guidance, is NOT required. However, this new guidance language could be part of a new COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) that OSHA could implement by mid-March, which would also be in line with Biden’s Executive Order.

Immediately before the guidance’s release, SEO staff participated in a conference call with OSHA leadership to discuss the guidance and a potential ETS. OSHA explicitly noted that they will be relying on this new guidance when addressing COVID-19 concerns in the workplace. As well, while they did not say whether an ETS was imminent, they have confirmed that the internal discussions have commenced, and will begin stakeholder outreach and involvement very soon.

Specifically, today’s guidance recommends “essential elements in a prevention program”:

- Conduct a hazard assessment.
- Identify control measures to limit the spread of the virus.
- Adopt policies for employee absences that don't punish workers as a way to encourage potentially infected workers to remain home.
- Ensure that coronavirus policies and procedures are communicated to both English and non-English speaking workers.
- Implement protections from retaliation for workers who raise coronavirus-related concerns.

DOL OSHA COVID-19 Guidance News Release:

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osha/osha20210129>

New OSHA COVID-19 Guidance: <https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus/safework>

NRMCA will continue to engage with OSHA on their COVID-19 actions and advocate for beneficial ready mixed concrete industry outcomes.

Best regards,

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