



NEWS RELEASE

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

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Michigan Businesses Provided Toolkit to Help Workplaces Stay Safe

LANSING, MICH. To further protect workers and the community, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's [Executive Order 2020-147](#) reiterates that businesses who are open to the public must refuse entry and service to individuals who fail to comply with wearing a face covering. The Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) stands at the ready to provide the tools necessary for business to protect their workers and remain safely open.

Under the governor's order, businesses must post signs at all entrances instructing customers of their legal obligation to wear a face covering while inside – to assist employers with this requirement, a print-ready poster that businesses may use is available [online](#). LEO and the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) have a set of online resources at Michigan.gov/COVIDWorkplaceSafety that provides guidelines, posters for employees and customers, factsheets, educational videos and a [reopening checklist](#) to keep workplaces safe.

“By requiring everyone in their establishment to mask up, Michigan businesses can help keep their employees, workplaces and customers safe,” said LEO Director Jeff Donofrio. “Employers who violate the [Governor's Executive Orders](#), [CDC guidance](#) and [OSHA Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#) create additional hazards for workers and put the public at risk. We all must do our part to prevent the spread of this virus.”

Studies have shown that wearing a mask can save lives and significantly lower an individual's chance of spreading COVID-19. [A study](#) on different regions in Germany, for example, suggests that the adoption of mandatory mask ordinances decreased the daily growth rate of COVID-19 infections by 40. [Modeling](#) from the University of Washington similarly indicates that more than 40,000 lives would be spared nationwide if 95% of the population wore a mask while in public. Furthermore, a study conducted by Goldman Sachs concluded that a federal mask mandate could save the U.S. economy from taking a 5% hit to our GDP.

“We will remain vigilant to equip employers and their staff with proper guidance and tools needed to keep Michigan workplaces safe,” said COVID-19 Workplace Safety Director Sean Egan. “Our priority is protecting workers and this Executive Order allows us to do that effectively.”

[Best practices that employees should follow](#) to proactively protect themselves from exposure to coronavirus:

- Wash hands regularly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water,
- Limit contact with others by remaining six feet apart,
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and tools routinely,
- Stay home if you or someone in your household is sick,
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth, and
- Practice self-screenings to check for any abnormal/new symptoms.

Anyone with questions regarding workplace safety and health may contact MIOSHA using the new hotline at **855-SAFE-C19 (855-723-3219)**.

Learn more about MIOSHA's efforts to protect Michigan's workforce during the pandemic and for information on the latest workplace safety guidance at [Michigan.gov/COVIDWorkplaceSafety](https://www.michigan.gov/COVIDWorkplaceSafety).

Learn more about protecting the public and protecting workers at [Michigan.gov/MaskUpMichigan](https://www.michigan.gov/MaskUpMichigan).

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at [michigan.gov/coronavirus](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus) and [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/Coronavirus).

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