

## COVID-19: Health and safety measures for workplaces

### Applicable Sections of the [Government of New Brunswick Mandatory Order](#)

12. Owners and managers of all workplaces, including government, must take every reasonable step to ensure minimal interaction of people within 2 metres of each other, and must comply with all advice to minimize risk as issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health.
13. All owners and managers of all workplaces including government will take every reasonable step required to prevent persons who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 from entering the workplace, in accordance with advice issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health or WorkSafe New Brunswick. They will also take every reasonable step required to prevent persons from entering workplaces who have travelled outside of New Brunswick in the previous 14 days.

### **To minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19, all workplaces must:**

- Be diligent in adopting a screening process for staff and visitors before they enter the workplace. A [sample self-screening tool](#) with recommendations for implementation is available.
- Take every reasonable step to ensure minimum interaction of people within 2 metres of each other;
- Ensure that proper hand-washing and enhanced sanitation/cleaning practices are enforced in areas where multiple people handle tools, goods, supplies, equipment or other shared items.

### **If an employer can not consistently maintain a two-metre separation between people due to essential work activities that require brief, sporadic interaction with others or if there will be unavoidable periods of close interaction, the following steps must be taken:**

- First, consider the feasibility of installing a physical barrier, such as a clear plastic guard, that may be used to protect workers from potential exposure. If not possible,
- All employees entering a workplace must be [actively screened](#) for symptoms of COVID-19.
  - Active screening of employees must include temperature checks, provided a non-contact thermometer (i.e. infrared) is available. Where deemed appropriate following a workplace risk assessment, active screening should be conducted on all other persons entering the workplace, as well as temperature checks provided a non-contact thermometer (i.e. infrared) is available.
  - Given that the work environment and activities may require brief, sporadic interaction as well as infrequent, unavoidable periods of close interaction with other persons, the active screening activity, including temperature checks, shall be conducted for all employees at the start of each shift and repeated not more than every five hours thereafter.
  - For personnel working 24-hour shifts (such as firefighters), active screening, including temperature checks, shall be conducted on all employees a minimum of four times during normal waking or active working hours, spaced in intervals of not more than five active working hours.

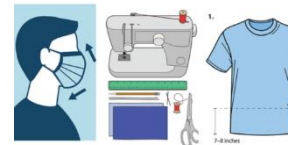
- Any person exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 must not enter the workplace or, if already mid-shift, be immediately removed from the workplace. 811 must be immediately contacted for instructions.
- Proper hand-washing and enhanced sanitation/cleaning practices must be practiced in areas where multiple people handle tools, goods, supplies, equipment or other shared items.
- Some work activities may require travelling and employees may be seated in close quarters for periods of time with other actively screened co-workers. The employer may recommend that these employees further protect each other by wearing non-medical fabric face coverings as suggested by the NB Chief Medical Officer.
- The NB Chief Medical Officer does not recommend the use of surgical masks by people who have no symptoms of respiratory infection (unless under isolation precautions as directed by public health). It is **NOT** necessary to wear an N95 respirator or a surgical mask if you are well and not exhibiting any symptoms. Improperly worn, they may increase your risk of infections.



N95 Respirator



Surgical Masks



Cloth Face Covering

- All workplace risk assessment practices as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act must continue and any identified risks are to be mitigated as required by the Act.
- “Workplace” means any building, structure, premises, water or land where work is carried on by one or more employees, and includes a project site, a mine, a ferry, a train and any vehicle used or likely to be used by an employee

**The Government of New Brunswick has been issuing guidance and advice to a variety of industries to promote compliance with the State of Emergency and health and safety measures required. The following is the updated documentation as of April 28, 2020.**

[April 26, 2020 – Guidance For Pet Groomers](#)

[April 26, 2020 – Guidance for Garden Centres](#)

[April 25, 2020 – Guidance for Staff in Child Residential Centres \(Group Homes\)](#)

[UPDATED: April 20, 2020 – Guidance for Best Practices for First Responders: Police and Fire](#)

[April 17, 2020 – Guidance for Take Out Restaurants, Food Trucks, and Ice Cream Shops](#)

[UPDATED: April 11, 2020 – Advice to Taxi Drivers](#)

[UPDATED: April 11, 2020 – Guidance for Grocery Stores and Retail Food](#)

[UPDATED: April 10, 2020 – Guidance for Workers who provide in-Home Services \(Non- Personal Care\)](#)

[UPDATED: April 10, 2020 – Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Guidance for Hotels](#)

[UPDATED: April 10, 2020 – Coronavirus Guidance for Apartment Building Operators, Employees and Residents](#)

[UPDATED: April 4, 2020 – Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Guidance for Adult Residential Facilities](#)

[March 27, 2020 – Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Guidance for Primary Care Providers in a Community Setting](#)

[March 21, 2020 – Guidance for Essential Service Employee Screening Tool](#)

[March 18, 2020 – Key messages for Daycares that remain open](#)

[March 15, 2020 – Long Haul Trucking and Boarder Crossing](#)

[March 11, 2020 – Operators, staff, and residents of long-term care facilities and adult residential facilities: Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Information](#)

For more information and tools on how to establish a safe and healthy workplace during COVID-19, please visit [WorkSafeNB: What workers and employers need to know.](#)

WorkSafeNB has also been publishing responses to your most [Frequently Asked Questions.](#)

More detailed information on risk [informed decision making for workplaces.](#)