

Recommended Guidance for Daily COVID-19 Screening of Employees and Visitors

The Washington State Department of Health recommends that all employers put COVID-19 screening protocols in place.

You can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in your facility by screening employees and visitors on a daily basis.

The screening protocol outlined below is based on the following:

- A review of screening protocols from multiple agencies
- Recommendations by the CDC
- A literature review of the most common signs and symptoms of COVID-19

COVID-19 screening protocol: What to do

Screen **everyone** who enters your facility, including:

- All employees before the start of each work shift
- All visitors

Ask the following questions when you screen employees and visitors:

“YES or NO, since your last day of work, or since your last visit to this facility, have you had any of the following:”

- A new fever (100.4°F or higher), or a sense of having a fever?*
- A new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition?*
- New shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition?*
- A new sore throat that you cannot attribute to another health condition?*
- New muscle aches (myalgias) that you cannot attribute to another health condition, or that may have been caused by a specific activity (such as physical exercise)?*

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*If an employee or visitor answers **YES** to any of the screening questions, immediately activate your agency's emergency protocol for COVID-19. The designated screener should consider:

- A review of the screening results
- Recommendations for possible exclusion of the employee or visitor from the facility
- Recommendations for medical follow-up

Additional COVID-19 Resources

- [DOH Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) webpage](#) – updated information and resources daily
- [Local Health Jurisdictions](#)
- [Workplace and Employers](#)
- [Persons Who are at Higher Risk for Serious Illness](#)
- [Communities and Community Organizations](#)
- [Stigma Reduction](#)
- [How Can I Be Prepared for a COVID-19 Outbreak?](#)

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