

COVID-19 Guidance for Pierce County Employers



We understand the recent news about COVID-19 has raised questions and concerns. Your health and the health of your employees are important to us.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department is the lead agency for this emerging public health issue in Pierce County. We are partnering with the State Department of Health and following their guidance.

Stay up to date on the most current information

Rely on tpchd.org/coronavirus for reliable, timely, and accurate information.

Determine when to reschedule meetings

If you have community meetings, events and programs planned, consider who will attend. The following questions can help you determine if you should meet online, cancel, or reschedule your meeting(s).

- Can we reschedule the meeting, event, or program or is there a regulatory requirement?
- Is the meeting, event, or program designed for a high-risk population (people over 60, people with underlying health conditions, or pregnant women)?

If yes:

- Consider re-scheduling.
 - Encourage high-risk or vulnerable populations to avoid the meeting, event or program. Provide alternative means for participation (e.g., Skype, webinar, online survey, etc.).
- If you have the meeting, event, or program:
 - Encourage those with cold or flu symptoms to not attend.
 - Encourage more space between people and urge them to maintain healthy habits.
 - Program organizers should clean surfaces with standard cleaners and demonstrate good hygiene protocols.

Consider alternative work options

We recommend you promote policies that reduce risk to staff, the public, and partners including working from home. Encourage employees, especially those at greater risk, to discuss alternative work options with their supervisors.

Employee wellness and benefits

Employees sick with cough, fever, or difficulty breathing should call their healthcare provider. Healthcare facilities request you call ahead, schedule an appointment and notify your doctor's office before you enter the clinic. Send employees telehealth options, available through your insurance plans as a good alternative to visiting a clinic.

Employee assistance programs

We understand this is a stressful time. Most EAPs provide 24/7 professional counseling and referrals, help with personal problems, online access to resources and are typically free for employees and their household members.

COVID -19 questions or concerns

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