



COVID-19: CONSTRUCTION

The pandemic (COVID-19) has affected the construction industry as a whole. As states and counties enter the various phases of reopening, new job site restart requirements have been established to protect the health and safety of workers. State and Federal OSHA requirements are in place to guide construction employers in the development and implementation of a written safety plan.

The safety plans are to be job site specific for preventing the spread of COVID-19 in accordance to CDC recommended guidelines. Contractors are required to notify and train their employees and subcontractors on the plan protocols. The plan shall cover, but not limited to the following components:

- COVID-19 information, spread prevention, and personal hygiene
- Training on the use and sanitation of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Social distancing guidelines
- Sanitation, cleaning, and disinfecting protocols
- Symptom monitoring, control measures, and screening
- Handling and reporting procedures for presumed and confirmed COVID-19 cases

Best Practices: (the following is not a comprehensive list)

- ✓ Encourage workers to stay home or leave the job site if they feel sick.
- ✓ If possible, avoid tool / equipment sharing. If unavoidable, clean tools and equipment with alcohol-based sanitizing wipes (at least 60% alcohol content) before and after use.
- ✓ Encourage frequent hand washing per CDC guidelines. If soap and water are unavailable, provide hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol content).
- ✓ If possible, limit the length of toolbox safety talks and meetings, while enforcing social distancing.
- ✓ Maintain social distancing (at least 6 feet) throughout the job site, including office trailers.
- ✓ Encourage and allow the use of face coverings
- ✓ Frequently disinfect commonly used surfaces. Regularly disinfect portable toilets and keep hand sanitizer dispensers full.
- ✓ Use EPA approved N-listed cleaning chemicals or products specifically labeled for use against the coronavirus.

References:

[CDC What Construction Workers Need to Know about COVID-19](#)

[CPWR COVID-19 Guidance on Workplace Practices](#)

[OSHA Alert COVID-19 Guidance for the Construction Workforce](#)

Questions? Contact BNPLossControl@berkleypac.com