



Interim Guidance:

Cleaning and Disinfection for Non-Healthcare Businesses and Workplaces

Updated April 10, 2020

Note: This document has been updated from the February 24, 2020 guidance to reflect increased community transmission of COVID-19 in San Francisco.

AUDIENCE:

The following interim guidance was developed by the San Francisco Department of Public Health for use by non-healthcare businesses and workplaces.

BACKGROUND:

Novel coronavirus disease, or COVID-19, is a new respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Illness severity ranges from asymptomatic to cold-like symptoms to life threatening. Signs and symptoms of infection include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscles aches, sore throat, and headache. Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea are less-common symptoms of COVID-19. Community transmission of COVID-19 in the United States has been reported in multiple areas, including San Francisco County. Based on the limited available data, older adults and those with chronic medical conditions are at highest risk for severe illness.

GUIDANCE:

Perform routine environmental cleaning and disinfection:

- Routinely clean and disinfect all frequently touched surfaces in the workplace, such as workstations, keyboards, telephones, handrails, and doorknobs.
- If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Discourage workers from using other workers' phones, desks, offices, or other work tools and equipment, when possible. If necessary, clean and disinfect them before and after use.
- Provide disposable wipes so that commonly used surfaces (for example, doorknobs, keyboards, remote controls, desks, other work tools and equipment) can be wiped down by employees before each use.
- For guidance on how to safely clean and disinfect your facility, as well as guidance for appropriate disinfectants please see SFDPH guidance [COVID-19: Cleaning and Disinfectant Safety & Approved Disinfectants](#) (posted at www.sfdcp.org/covid19 under "Cleaning Recommendations").



Perform enhanced cleaning and disinfection after persons suspected/confirmed to have COVID-19 have been in the facility:

- If an employee or visitor is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, follow SFDPH guidance [For Businesses and Organizations in the Community: What to do if Someone at the Workplace Tested Positive for COVID-19?](#) (posted at www.sfgdcp.org/covid19 under Businesses and Employers)”
- Also note [CDC guidance on Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities](#), section on “Cleaning and Disinfection After Persons Suspected/Confirmed to Have COVID-19 Have Been in the Facility.”

ADDITIONAL WORKPLACE-SPECIFIC GUIDANCE:

- **The CDC provides additional workplace-specific guidelines** at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>. These guidelines provide additional details for transit operators, police services, schools, childcare, businesses, first responders and law enforcement, correctional and detention facilities, and community- and faith-based organizations.
- **SFDPH provides additional guidance for congregate living spaces** at [Interim Guidance: Preventing Spread of COVID-19 in Community Congregate Living Settings for Those Who are Housed in Private Rooms](#); see section of document titled “Attachment A: COVID-19 Minimum Environmental Cleaning Standards for Businesses, Schools, and SRO Settings” (posted at www.sfgdcp.org/covid19 under “Congregate Living Settings”).
- **Guidance for schools and childcare facilities** can be found at:
 - SFDPH’s [COVID-19 Interim Guidance for Administrators of San Francisco K-12 Schools and Childcare Programs](#) (posted at www.sfgdcp.org/covid19 under “Schools and childcare facilities”).
 - CDC’s [Guidance for childcare programs that remain open](#).
- **California Department of Public Health provides guidance** for [veterinary professionals](#) and [food and beverage businesses](#), such as grocery, restaurants, and farmers’ markets.