

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO

NEW JERSEY

CWA NJ COVID-19 HEALTH & SAFETY TOOLKIT FOR PUBLIC WORKERS

SCAN CODE







CWA HEALTH & SAFETY SURVEY

Types of Health and Safety Committees:

- Local Union Health and Safety Committee
 - exclusively union members
- Labor-Management Health and Safety Committee
 - union members and management reps
 - a building level, L/M H&S Committee is an example



Functions of a Local Union Health and Safety

Committee

- Identifying and investigating health and safety hazards and problems
- Identifying the best way(s) to eliminate or control the hazards/problems
- Identifying effective union strategies and tactics for improving conditions
- Preparing for labor-management H&S committees
- Evaluating the effectiveness of H&S control measures
- Communicating with union leadership and membership
- Building the union and member involvement in H&S efforts



Modes of Transmission

- Airborne: Very small aerosolized particles that stay suspended in the air and can travel further distances
- Droplet: Larger particles that fall within a few feet
- Contact (direct or indirect) with infected people or contaminated objects & surfaces. Virus can be transferred to the mouth, nose, or eyes.





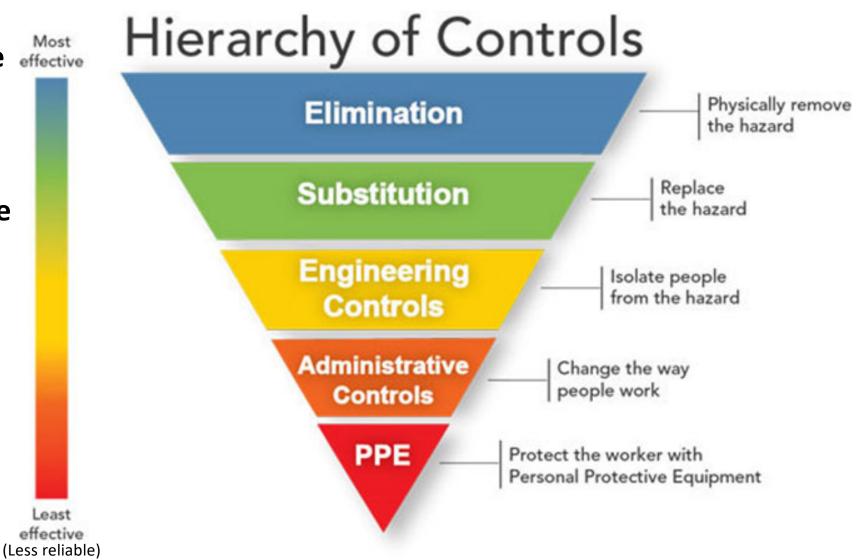




Protecting Workers

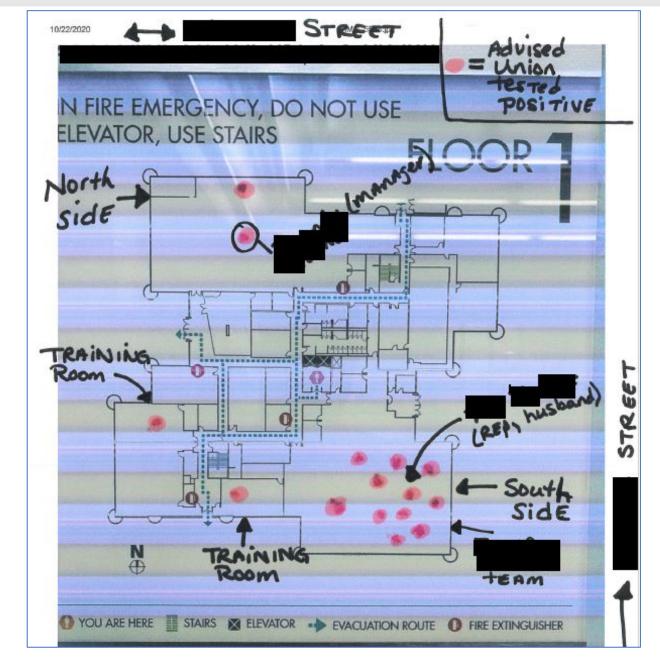
 Focuses on removing, redesigning and altering the workplace over changing worker behavior.

- Start with the most effective method to protect workers.
- A combination of several controls may be needed.





COVID-19 workplace outbreak





UNION GOALS VS. MANAGEMENT GOALS FOR A HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM:



DISCUSS AND PICK TOP GOALS THE UNION HAS FOR A HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM AND THE TOP GOALS MANAGEMENT HAS FOR A HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM



Getting H&S Problems Fixed

Involves preparation to:

Identify and research the problem and scope

Document the problem

Analyze the problem

Figure out the best way(s) to solve the problem using the Hierarchy of Controls

Strategize about how to get management to fix the problem

Communicate (members, union H&S committee members, local leadership)



Break-out: Union prep for the L/M H&S Committee

Directions:

- Prepare for your L/M H&S Committee meeting
- Discuss the H&S issue/problem you chose to bring up at your next L/M H&S Committee meeting.
- Discuss/conduct your research, plan your arguments, anticipate management's arguments and how you will respond, and figure out your presentation. Practice your presentation.



Break-out: Role Play -L/M H&S Committee meeting

Directions:

- You will be meeting with management at the L/M H&S Committee meeting as the labor representatives on the committee. (Stay in your roles.)
- Present your H&S issue to management and discuss.
- Chose one labor H&S Committee rep to report back about the outcome, how the meeting went, e.g. what went well, what you would do differently, what your next steps might be.

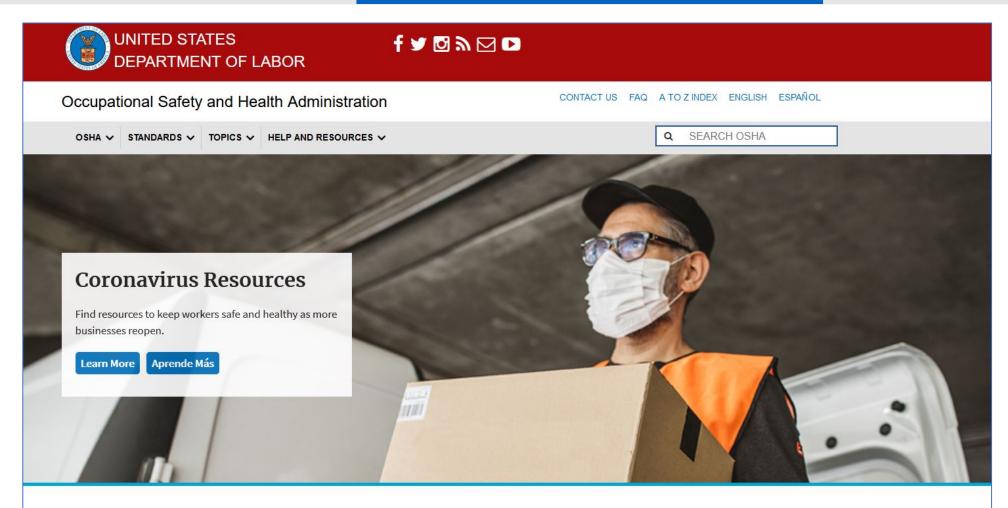


PEOSH: https://www.state.nj.us/health/workplacehealthandsafety/





OSHA: https://www.osha.gov/









TAKE ACTION

File a Complaint

Report a Fatality or Severe Injury





Protect NJ Workforce During the COVID-19 Pandemic: EO 192

- Requires employers who permit its workforce to be physically present at a worksite to enforce certain COVID-19 related requirements, including:
 - Require individuals to maintain at least 6 feet distance from others to the maximum extent possible; if this is not possible, employer must install physical barriers wherever possible;
 - Require employees and visitors to wear face masks at the worksite, subject to certain limited exceptions;
 - Provide face masks to employees at the employer's expense;
 - Provide approved sanitization materials to employees and visitors at no cost to those individuals;
 - Ensure that employees practice hand hygiene and provide sufficient break time for that purpose;
 - Routinely clean and disinfect all high-touch areas in accordance with DOH and CDC guidelines;
 - Conduct daily health checks, such as temperature screenings, visual symptom checking, selfassessment checklists, and/or health questionnaires, prior to each shift, consistent with CDC guidance;
 - Exclude sick employees from the workplace and follow requirements of applicable leave laws; and
 - Promptly notify employees of any known exposure to COVID-19 at the worksite.



