



GBCA SAFETY UPDATE

STAYING HEALTHY & SAFE: A RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

With global concerns about the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), GBCA is reiterating some advice on how to stay healthy and safe. The spread of coronavirus is being called a pandemic—there is a large number of people getting infected worldwide in a short amount of time. Coronavirus is a novel virus: It is new to humans, meaning that we do not have immunity to the virus, which is why so many people are getting infected.

The CDC and OSHA have issued information and tips for working during a pandemic such as coronavirus. Here are some primary recommendations for ensuring the safety of workers:

Hygiene and Health is Key

Reiterate with employees that practicing standard sanitation and hygiene regimens is a top priority:

- Encourage frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and water.
- Hand sanitizer, with at least 60% alcohol content, is a secondary option.
- Remind everyone to keep noses and mouths covered when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your face, especially near your eyes, ears, nose, and mouth, with unwashed hands.

Sick Employees Should Stay Home

- Employees who are sick should not report to work and should avoid contact with others.
- Employees who are sick and have had direct contact with someone confirmed to have coronavirus or who have recently traveled to an affected area should call their medical professional immediately to discuss their travel history or contact and next steps. **If you are sick and suspect coronavirus, call ahead first: do not simply go to the doctor's office.**
- Employees who have been sick should be fully recovered before returning to work.