



City of Eugene

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) following OSHA required COVID Training

Do we have to wear masks outside? Face coverings must be worn outdoors if you cannot consistently maintain 6' of physical distance from people outside your household.

If our masks are fogging our safety glasses do we still need to wear the mask if outdoors? Yes, if within 6' of others unless it presents an immediate hazard to yourself or others. There are products available locally to prevent fogging (try ski shops, dive shops, safety suppliers, etc.), and alcohol wipes work in a pinch.

Should we be requiring our contractors, suppliers, etc. to wear masks? Yes- anyone in an indoor workspace or outdoors if they could come within 6' of others is required to follow the face covering guidelines.

Since we don't have custodial service in our shop how often should we be sanitizing? Shared tools and equipment should be cleaned after every use, and touch surfaces like door hardware and grab handles should be cleaned as often as practical, at least twice per shift.

Quarantines and Contact Tracing

Could you please explain how the contact tracing process works? When an employee learns that they have COVID or have been asked to quarantine following a close contact with a COVID case, they are to follow normal absence reporting protocol and notify their supervisor. The supervisor completes an online form that starts two tracks:

- Someone from the ERC will contact the employee to provide information around leaves, benefits, time coding, access to resources, etc.
- Internal contact tracers will reach out to employees with COVID to identify possible workplace contacts (those who may have come within 6-ft for 15 minutes or longer cumulatively over a 24 hour period). These contacts could include people from the workgroup, people from other workgroups like Facilities or ISD, contractors, etc. If necessary, Facilities custodial staff may be asked to provide extra cleaning and sanitation, or that work could be outsourced.

Can staff who test positive release their identity to others? Yes, if they choose.

So would the positive person have to share that info themselves and not rely on the city disclosing that info even with their permission? To the extent possible and consistent with EEOC guidelines, the City will maintain the confidentiality of the COVID positive employee.

Should I quarantine if I have family come from out of state? Yes.

If so, what leave options are available? Contact the ERC for more information, but generally leave options may include Emergency Paid Sick Leave, Vacation, or Sick Leave.

How long is quarantine? Fourteen days is *still* the recommended time period. However, as you may know, the CDC, OHA, and Lane County Public Health now allow reduced quarantine for people without symptoms:

- After seven days, if you have had a negative result from a test that was administered less than 48 hours before you end quarantine.
- After 10 days, without any testing.

You can find helpful information here:

https://lanecounty.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_3585797/Image/Government/County%20Departments/Health%20and%20Human%20Services/Public%20Health/Coronavirus/1216%20COVID%20Guidebook.pdf

Note- this information is updated from when the sessions were held live.

If someone is waiting for testing for COVID-19, does City policy require quarantining until a result from an accurate test is obtained? No, unless:



- They have been placed under quarantine by a county health department, a medical provider, or under the direction of our internal contact tracing team. Or-
- They are experiencing symptoms of any infectious illness, in which case they should be staying home anyways.

Is the City considering COVID rapid tests to be sufficiently accurate? According to [Lane County Public Health](#), “this type of diagnostic test...detects specific proteins on the surface of the virus. Positive results are usually quite accurate but negative results need to be confirmed with additional testing.”

Vaccinations

Will vaccination be mandatory to work for the City? At this time vaccines are not required for all City staff. The City will continue to evaluate lead agency guidance and recommendations related to vaccines.

What is the cost of the vaccination? The vaccine doses have been purchased by the federal government and are being provided free of charge. The costs of administering the vaccinations will be fully covered by insurance.

What can you share about vaccine rollout for us? We will follow Oregon Health Authority guidance around vaccine prioritization across various industrial sectors. Their website will have the latest information: <https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov/>

Do you expect a city wide COVID vaccine delivery to employees like the yearly flu shot? Eugene Springfield Fire Department has received approval from the state to provide vaccinations, and they will administer vaccinations to emergency responders (this includes firefighters and sworn law enforcement).

Will seasonal staff have access to vaccinations, too? Eventually everyone in the country will have access to vaccinations. If people are uninsured, the cost will be covered through a portion of the CARES Act called the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Provider Relief Fund.

Will the City provide vaccinations to our families? Vaccinations will be fully covered under our health insurance. At this time lead agencies including Lane County Public Health are exploring community-wide rollout plans.

Are there any concerns about vaccine side-effects and is this being considered when vaccinating particular work groups? We are monitoring information about side effects and will continue to adhere to the latest lead agency guidance around safety protocols and will work within the latest CDC and OHA guidance to advise our staff.

Feel free to reach out to [Paul Furnari](#) if you have other questions.