

Phase One ReOpening & What To Do If Your Employee Tests Positive



Friday, May 29, 2020

Steps to Take if an Employee Tests Positive

As the District begins its Phase One ReOpening, and you are making plans to get your property ready, it is important to ensure you that know the proper protocol if an employee tests positive for COVID-19. As more businesses open, the number of positive cases will rise, so it is important to know the immediate steps to take if an employee tests positive.

- **Step One:** Call the [Department of Health](#) and report the case. They can also provide specific guidance for your property on how to handle operations and disinfecting.
- **Step Two:** Determine if your property needs to shut down for additional cleaning. According to the CDC, in most cases, you do not need to shut down your facility.
 - If it has been 7 days or more since the sick employee used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary. Your continued routine cleaning and disinfecting of all high-touch surfaces in the facility is sufficient.
 - If it has been less than 7 days since the sick employee has been in the facility, close off any areas used for prolonged periods of time by the sick person. Wait 24-hours before cleaning and disinfecting to minimize potential for other employees being exposed to respiratory droplets. If waiting 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
 - CDC cleaning and sanitizing information can be found [here](#).
- **Step Three:** Exclude the employee from the facility until

cleared by their healthcare provider to return to work.

- **Step Four:** Notify employees that a co-worker they have been in contact with has tested positive for COVID-19. All employees from the food establishment that have come into contact with a positive case of COVID-19 should be restricted from the establishment.
- **Step Five:** Encourage employees who came in contact with the infected person to get tested. [Testing Site Info](#).

Department of Health Webinars

Next week the DC Department of Health will start hosting required 20 minute webinars for operators reopening for outdoor dining. While it is likely only one person will be required to attend, we encourage you to join this webinar with your managers and key team members. More information will be shared regarding the webinars once it is available.

Insurance

It is recommended that you proactively contact your insurance agent before reopening to inquire as to whether you are covered for liability in the event a guest contracts COVID-19 and claims they became infected from your property.

Stage One TeleTownHall for Restaurants

Today at 1pm, the Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture will be hosting a Stage One TeleTownHall for Restaurants. This is specific to restaurants and they will discuss guidance on operating in Stage One and on required steps to take should your employee test positive for COVID19. Click [here](#) to RSVP. You can also join by dialing in 844-881-1314.

Regulations Regarding Outdoor Seating

Yesterday, the District's Alcohol Beverage Regulation Administration ("ABRA") passed emergency regulations allowing additional outdoor seating on public and private space to be used on a temporary basis, currently through July 24, 2020 unless extended. The regulations apply to outdoor sidewalk cafés or summer gardens, including an existing rooftop patio. They also apply to many types

of licensees.

For additional seating of private space, you will need to show an agreement to use the space and register with ABRA. For public space use, you must register with both ABRA and DDOT. Registration instructions are forthcoming.

There are numerous. Click [here](#) for the requirements governing the use of the additional space, as well as, operational requirements designed to protect workers and the public. Below are brief highlights:

- Have a menu in use containing a minimum of three (3) prepared food items available for purchase by patrons.
- Require the purchase of one or more prepared food items per table.
- On premises consumption is allowed between the hours 8:00 a.m. and midnight.
- Requirement to implement a reservation system.

Incident Weather

Additional guidance on incident weather is forthcoming. It is recommended that you ask the customer to pay when ordering, or when the food arrives, and that you have to-go containers at the ready. There is absolutely no indoor dining permitted to accommodate incident weather.

Regards,
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