



South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Considerations for Controlling COVID-19 Spread in Retail Food Establishments

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How does it spread



COVID-19

How is it spread?



Through the
air by coughing
and sneezing



Close personal
contact, such
as touching or
shaking hands



Touching an object
or surface with the
virus on it, then
touching your mouth,
nose, or eyes



If you have recently traveled to an area that has COVID-19 transmission and are experiencing symptoms such as fever, coughing or shortness of breath, call ahead to your health care provider before seeking medical care.

Food safety

- “Currently there is no evidence to support transmission of COVID-19 associated with food.”
- “In general, because of poor survivability of these coronaviruses on surfaces, there is likely very low risk of spread from food products or packaging.”

Risk in Restaurants

- **Lowest Risk:** Food service limited to drive-through, delivery, take-out, and curbside pick up.
- **More Risk:** Pick up emphasized. On-site dining limited to outdoor seating. Seating capacity reduced to allow tables to be spaced at least 6 feet apart.
- **Higher Risk:** On-site dining with indoor seating capacity reduced to allow tables to be spaced at least 6 feet apart. And/or on-site dining with outdoor seating, but tables **not** spaced at least six feet apart.
- **Highest Risk:** On-site dining with indoor seating. Seating capacity **not** reduced and tables **not** spaced at least 6 feet apart.

Reducing risk

- Encouraging ill staff and customers to stay home
- Mask wearing and social distancing
- Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Ventilation
- Physical barriers

AccelerateSC Guidance



GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING OUR HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

<https://accelerate.sc.gov/sites/default/files/Documents/SC%20Restaurant%20Guidelines%2010.2.20.pdf>

Importance of masks



Hendrix MJ, Walde C, Findley K, Trotman R. Absence of Apparent Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 from Two Stylists After Exposure at a Hair Salon with a Universal Face Covering Policy — Springfield, Missouri, May 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020;69:930-932.

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6928e2external icon>.

Food Safety & COVID-19

COVID-19: Food Safety Operations and Re-Opening Toolkit

To support the [SCRLA](#) re-opening guidance and to aid restaurants in successful re-opening, DHEC, in conjunction with [SCRLA](#), developed a toolkit which includes signage, templates, a checklist, and educational materials.

Face Mask - Required
Español - ES

Do Your Part - Employee Screening
Español - ES | 中文 - ZH

Do Your Part - Do Not Enter
Español - ES | 中文 - ZH

Do Your Part - While You Wait

Do Your Part - Upon Entering

Do Your Part - Cleaning Checklist
Español - ES | 中文 - ZH

Do Your Part - Restroom Checklist
Español - ES | 中文 - ZH

Do Your Part - Beverage Service

Outdoor Seating Guidance

Do Your Part - Table Reserved
Full Page | Tent

Ready to Dine
8.5"X11" | 11"X17"

Stickers
Practice Proper Glove Use

<https://scdhec.gov/food-safety/food-safety-covid-19>

DO YOUR PART

Help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses like **COVID-19** and the **Flu**.



IF YOU HAVE A FEVER

IF YOU HAVE A PERSISTANT COUGH

IF YOU HAVE SHORTNESS OF BREATH

IF YOU FEEL SICK

Face coverings are **REQUIRED** for entry.

Face coverings should **NOT** be worn by:

- Children younger than 2 years old
- Anyone who has trouble breathing
- Anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance

Help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses like **COVID-19** and the **Flu**.

Employee screening for **COVID-19**

If an **employee** answers **YES** to any of the questions below, then the **employee** is **NOT** permitted to work.

① Have you had a **fever** in the last **72 hours**?

✓ Temperature of **100.4 °F** or higher

② Are you showing **symptoms*** associated with **COVID-19**?

✓ Coughing
✓ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
✓ Feeling achy all over
✓ Sore Throat
✓ New loss of taste or smell
✓ Chills

③ Have you been **diagnosed** with **COVID-19** or told by a Healthcare provider or public health official that you should **self-quarantine** due to potential **COVID-19** exposure?

Guidance for Responding to Possible and Confirmed COVID-19 Ill Food Workers

Do Your Part - Employee Exposed
to COVID-19 but not Ill

Do Your Part - Employee Positive
for COVID-19

Do Your Part - Employee Becomes
Ill with Known or Suspected COVID-
19

Do Your Part - Employee is Sick
with or may have COVID-19

Interim Guidance for COVID-19
Scenarios for Businesses

<https://scdhec.gov/food-safety/food-safety-covid-19>

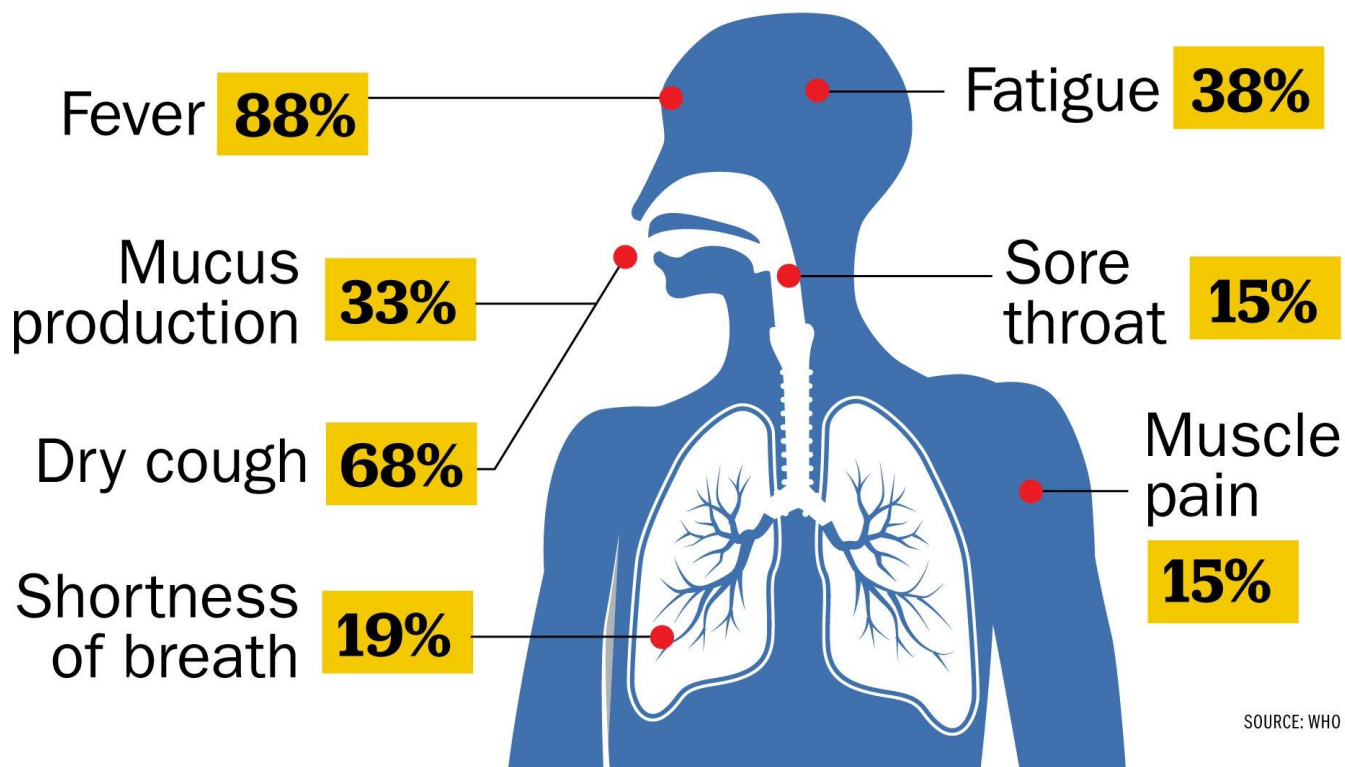
Businesses & Employers (COVID-19)

- Visit our [SC Cases by County & ZIP Code \(COVID-19\)](#) page for the recent disease activity by county report.
- **UPDATED** - [DHEC Interim Guidance for COVID-19 Scenarios for Businesses \(PDF\)](#), [Spanish \(PDF\)](#)
- [AccelerateSC - South Carolina's COVID-19 Response](#)
- **UPDATED** - [DHEC COVID-19 Re-Opening Guidance for Businesses - \(PDF\)](#)
- **NEW** - [DHEC Employee Screening Tool](#)
- [OSHA Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19 - \(PDF\)](#)
- [SC LLR and Health Professional Boards for Issues Related to Licensure, Including Expedient Processing](#)
- [FDA Food Industry Guidance and Food Safety](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Guidance for Businesses and Workplaces to Plan, Prepare, and Respond](#)

Definitions

- **Close contact:** Within six (6) feet for a cumulative 15 minutes or more of a person contagious with COVID-19 in a 24 hour period
- **Quarantine:** Separate from others because of close contact (14 days)
- **Isolation:** Separate from others because they are sick or confirmed COVID-19 positive (10 days)

Initial symptoms of symptomatic COVID-19



SOURCE: WHO

Employee is ill

- Encourage them not to come to work or send home immediately
- Recommend they get tested
- Clean any areas they were in if within seven (7) days
- Identify potential close contacts

COVID-19 Testing Locations

English | Español

Before you leave the testing site, confirm with testing staff how you will receive your results.

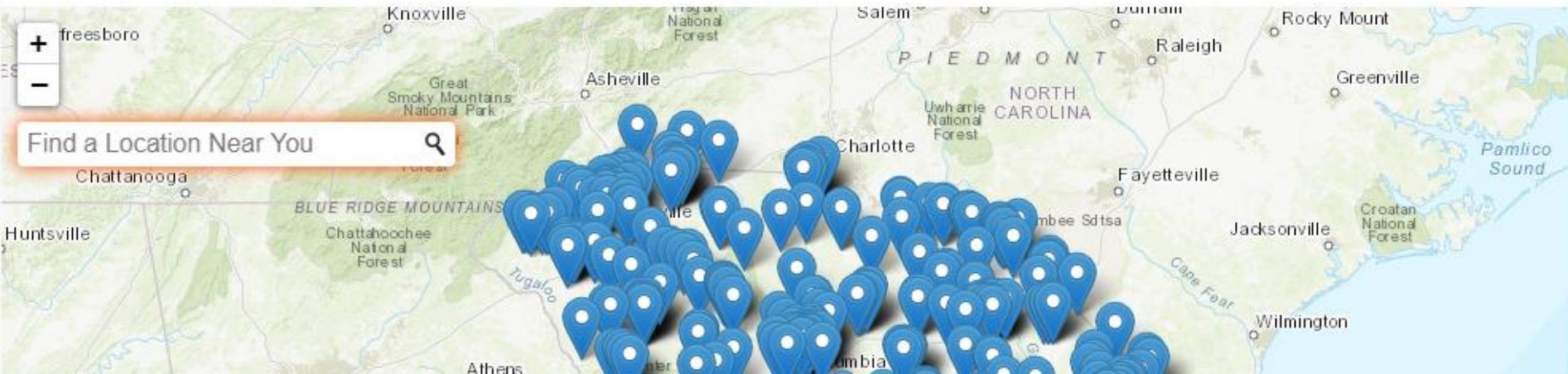
COVID-19

Telehealth
Virtual Care

Testing
Types

Steps to Take After
Being Tested

If You Test
Positive



<https://scdhec.gov/covid19/covid-19-testing-locations>

Employee tests positive

- They will need to complete isolation criteria
 - 10 days since start of symptoms or after test was collected if no symptoms
 - Symptoms improved & no fever for 24 hours
- Negative test NOT required for return to work
- Close contacts must quarantine for 14 days after last contact (exceptions for critical infrastructure employees)

Scenario	Actions to Take
<p>POSITIVE</p> <p>Employee tests positive for COVID-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell employee to stay home and recommend they contact their healthcare provider, if they have not already done so. • Contact HR, Employee Relations, or supervisor to begin the process of gathering necessary information, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date of onset of symptoms (if applicable) ○ Date and location where test specimen (swab) was collected ○ Date test results were received ○ Instructions provided by healthcare provider when test results were communicated ○ Whether the employee came in close contact¹ with any other employees or visitors from 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms (or specimen collection if they never have had symptoms) until they were sent home • Employee should remain out of work until they have recovered and met the criteria to return to work.² • Perform coworker exposure assessment and notify coworkers of close contact status or potential exposure and provide guidance as indicated.³ Maintain confidentiality when providing notifications. • The area where the infected employee worked should be cleaned and disinfected if the employee was there while contagious (from 48 hours prior to symptom onset, or specimen collection if never symptomatic, to at least ten days after symptom onset or specimen collection). If possible, the area should be isolated for 24 hours prior to cleaning and disinfection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the business is not affiliated with the healthcare industry, they are not required to hire a specialized company for cleaning and disinfection. ○ See CDC Cleaning and Disinfection Guidance for additional information.

https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/DHEC-Interim-Guidance-for-COVID-19-Scenarios-forBusinesses_7.25.20.pdf

<p>SICK BUT NO TEST</p> <p>Employee experiences symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (either calls out sick or is at work when they begin experiencing symptoms)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The employee should be sent home and encouraged to get tested for COVID-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the employee tests positive, follow the steps listed in the “Employee tests positive for COVID-19” scenario above. ○ If the employee tests negative, they may return to work when symptoms have resolved. ○ If the employee does not get tested, they should be told to remain out of work until they have recovered and met criteria for release from isolation² as if they had tested positive. • No further action is needed unless the employee tests positive, then follow guidance for “Employee tests positive for COVID-19” above.
<p>CLOSE CONTACT OF A CASE</p> <p>Employee has been in close contact¹ with someone (non-employee) or lives with someone who tests positive for COVID-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send employee home. • The employee should self-quarantine and is encouraged to be tested at any time if they develop symptoms and after day 7 from exposure if they have no symptoms, though <u>testing negative does not shorten the necessary quarantine period.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If the employee lives with the person who tested positive and cannot stay separate from them during the quarantine period, they must quarantine for an additional 14 days beyond when the positive person meets criteria for release from isolation² (therefore, minimum of 24 days). ○ If the employee was in close contact with someone with whom they do not live, they must quarantine for 14 days after their last contact with the positive person. • If they are released to return to work sooner than the appropriate quarantine period, they should contact HR Director or supervisor, and a return to work decision will be made in consultation with DHEC.
<p>CLOSE CONTACT OF SOMEONE SICK (NO TEST)</p> <p>Employee has been in close contact¹ with someone (non-employee) or lives with someone who displays symptoms consistent with COVID-19</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee may remain at work as long as they do not have symptoms while the ill person is tested and waiting on results. • If the ill person tests positive for COVID-19: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Send employee home and follow the guidance in the section above.

CONTACT OF A CONTACT

Employee lives with someone who has been in close contact¹ with someone who displays symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19

- The employee is considered a “contact of a contact.”
- Employee may remain at work as long as they do not have symptoms. They do not need to be tested unless they develop symptoms.
- Nothing further needs to be done unless the person with whom the employee lives or was a close contact develops symptoms or tests positive.
- If the person they live with or had close contact with develops symptoms, send the employee home until it can be determined whether the symptoms are due to COVID-19.
 - If the person they live with or had close contact with tests negative or their healthcare provider does not consider the illness to be COVID-19, the employee may return to work.
 - If the person they live with or had close contact with tests positive for COVID-19, send the employee home and follow the guidance for employees who are close contacts of a positive person above.

https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/DHEC-Interim-Guidance-for-COVID-19-Scenarios-forBusinesses_7.25.20.pdf

Resources

- AccelerateSC Guidance - <https://accelerate.sc.gov/sites/default/files/Documents/SC%20Restaurant%20Guidelines%2010.2.20.pdf>
- DHEC Business Guidance –
 - <https://scdhec.gov/covid19/resources-community-covid-19/businesses-employers-covid-19>
 - https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/DHEC-Employer-Return-to-Work-Guidance_7.27.20.pdf
- DHEC Food Safety & COVID-19 - <https://scdhec.gov/food-safety/food-safety-covid-19>

Resources

- CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidelines - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/cleaning-disinfecting-decision-tool.html>
- CDC Food Safety & COVID-19 - <https://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety/newsletter/food-safety-and-Coronavirus.html>
- CDC Food and COVID-19 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/food-and-COVID-19.html>
- CDC Considerations for Restaurant & Bar Owners - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/business-employers/bars-restaurants.html>