



Protecting the Safety and Health of Workers

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)



All individuals on site are responsible for their own health and safety and following the guidance provided in this presentation.

At the end of this presentation please download, complete and submit the self-certification to SUNY Poly EHS.

- Coronaviruses are a family of viruses that can cause illness in people.
- Coronaviruses circulate among animals, including camels, cattle, and cats.
- SARS-CoV-2 is the seventh known human coronavirus and the virus that causes COVID-19.
- It is thought to have jumped species from animals to begin infecting humans in late 2019.

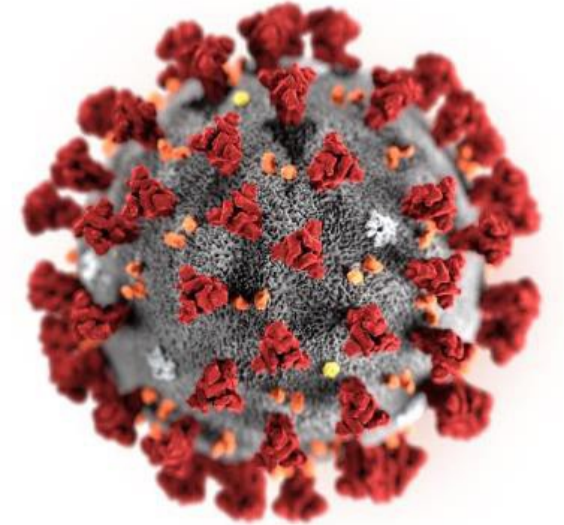
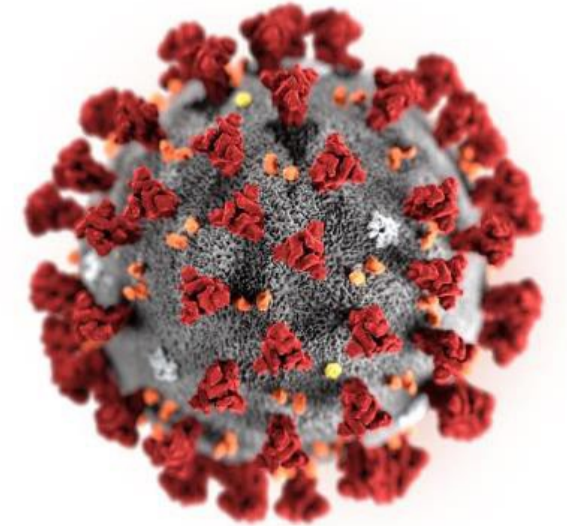


Illustration: CDC / Alissa Eckert & Dan Higgins

- COVID-19 is a respiratory disease spread from person-to-person. The virus that causes the coronavirus is the novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.



Source: [CDC](#)

- Several coronaviruses cause common colds, but are not significant threats for most healthy people.
- Other coronaviruses have caused past outbreaks, including:
 - Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
 - Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)
 - each caused by a different coronavirus.
- SARS-CoV-2 is a distinct coronavirus.

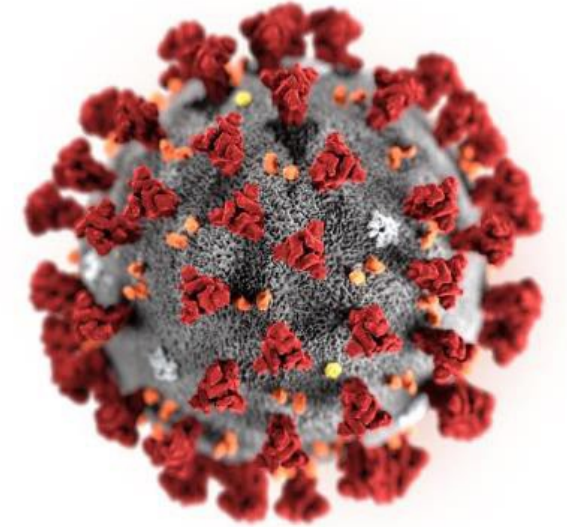
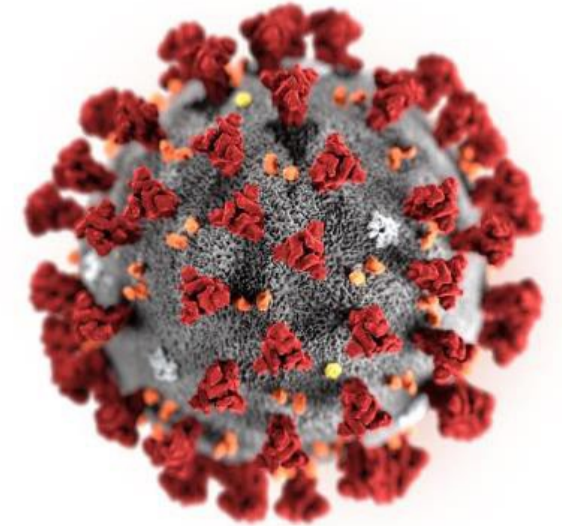


Illustration: CDC / Alissa Eckert & Dan Higgins

- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
- The virus spreads by droplets made when people with the coronavirus cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people nearby or be inhaled into their lungs.
- People who are infected often—but not always—have symptoms of illness. People without symptoms are able to spread virus.
- It may be possible that a person can get the coronavirus by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.



Source: [CDC](#)

- Not everyone infected with the COVID-19 virus has symptoms.
- Symptoms include mild to severe respiratory illness type symptoms like:
 - Fever, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Chills, Repeated shaking with chills, Muscle pain, Headache, Sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell
- The symptoms may start 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus.
- If you are having symptoms of COVID-19, it is recommended you call your healthcare provider. If you are having a medical emergency, call 911 or go to the hospital.

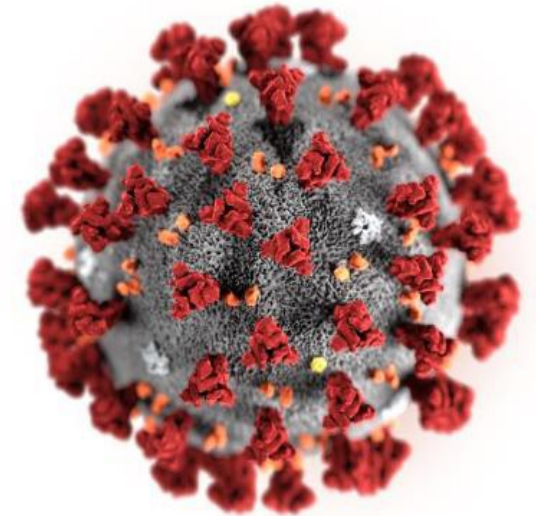


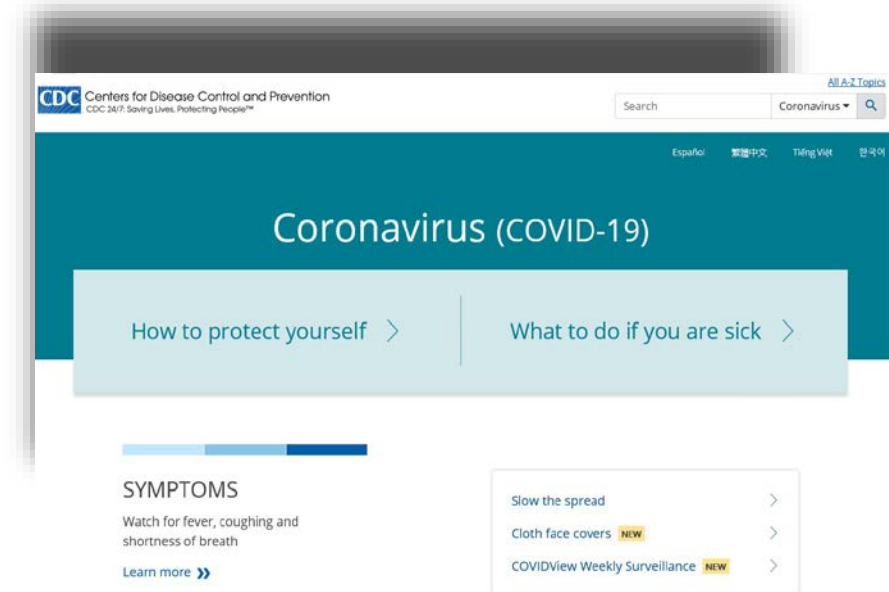
Illustration: CDC / Alissa Eckert & Dan Higgins

- More than 2.7 million cases worldwide.
- Different parts of the U.S. are seeing different levels of COVID-19 activity.
- All 50 states have reported cases of COVID-19 to CDC.



Latest situation summary:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/

- COVID-19 cases as of 5/1/2020 include:
 - Imported cases in travelers.
 - Cases among close contacts of a known case.
 - Community-acquired cases where the source of the infection is unknown.
 - Most U.S. states are reporting community spread of COVID-19.



Latest situation summary:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/

- Prior to seeking treatment, alert your healthcare provider or occupational health clinic if you think you may have COVID-19.
- Tell your healthcare provider if you have been exposed to someone with the virus and have signs/symptoms of infection, as well as about any recent travel to areas where COVID-19 has spread.
- If you are having trouble breathing, or have any other concerning symptoms call 911 for immediate help.



Photo: CDC / Scott Housley

- Your healthcare provider can determine if you should be tested for COVID-19 based on any symptoms you might have, and the severity of them.
- If you receive a positive test for COVID-19, contact your company's HR department or site representative.
- There is not currently a vaccine or specific treatment for COVID-19.
- Some patients, especially those who become very ill, may require supportive care in a hospital.
- Currently no doctor's note is needed for UAlbany testing site
 - To get an appointment call **888-364-3065**.



Photo: CDC / Scott Housley

- OSHA is closely coordinating with CDC, including the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH), and other agencies to monitor the ongoing pandemic.
- The risk of exposure in many workplaces likely reflects the risk to the general public in the community where the workplace is located.
- Risk can increase when workers have frequent, close contact with the general public or other co-workers.



Photo: U.S. Navy / Seaman Rob Aylward

- Follow existing OSHA standards to help protect workers from exposure to SARS- CoV-2 and infection with COVID-19.
 - Employers should also remember that OSHA can use the General Duty Clause, Section 5(a)(1), of the Occupational Safety and Health Act to ensure that workers are protected from recognized safety and health hazards that may cause serious harm.
- **Relevant OSHA Requirements**
 - Personal Protective Equipment (29 CFR 1910 subpart I), including:
 - PPE General Requirements (1910.132)
 - Eye and Face Protection (1910.133)
 - Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
 - Hand Protection (29 CFR 1910.138)
 - Bloodborne Pathogens (29 CFR 1910.1030)
 - Hazard Communication (29 CFR 1910.1200)
 - Recordkeeping (29 CFR part 1904)

Risk - HIGH: Currently there are NO High Risk Sectors at NY CREATES

Medium Risk:

- Jobs that require frequent (i.e., >10 minutes) and/or close (i.e., within 6 feet) contact with people who may be infected with SARS-CoV-2, but who are not known or suspected COVID-19 patients.
 - Examples:
 - EHS
 - ERT
 - Shipping/ Receiving
 - Janitorial staff
 - IT

- Jobs that do not require contact with people known to be or suspected of being infected with SARS-CoV-2, nor frequent close contact with (>10 minutes, within 6 feet) of the general public.
- Workers in this category have minimal occupational contact with the public and other coworkers.
 - Examples:
 - WSOs
 - Engineers
 - FOG

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL BUSINESS, NON-PROFIT & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

All businesses onsite must follow Department of Health and CDC Guidelines, OSHA Standards and site policies/guidelines

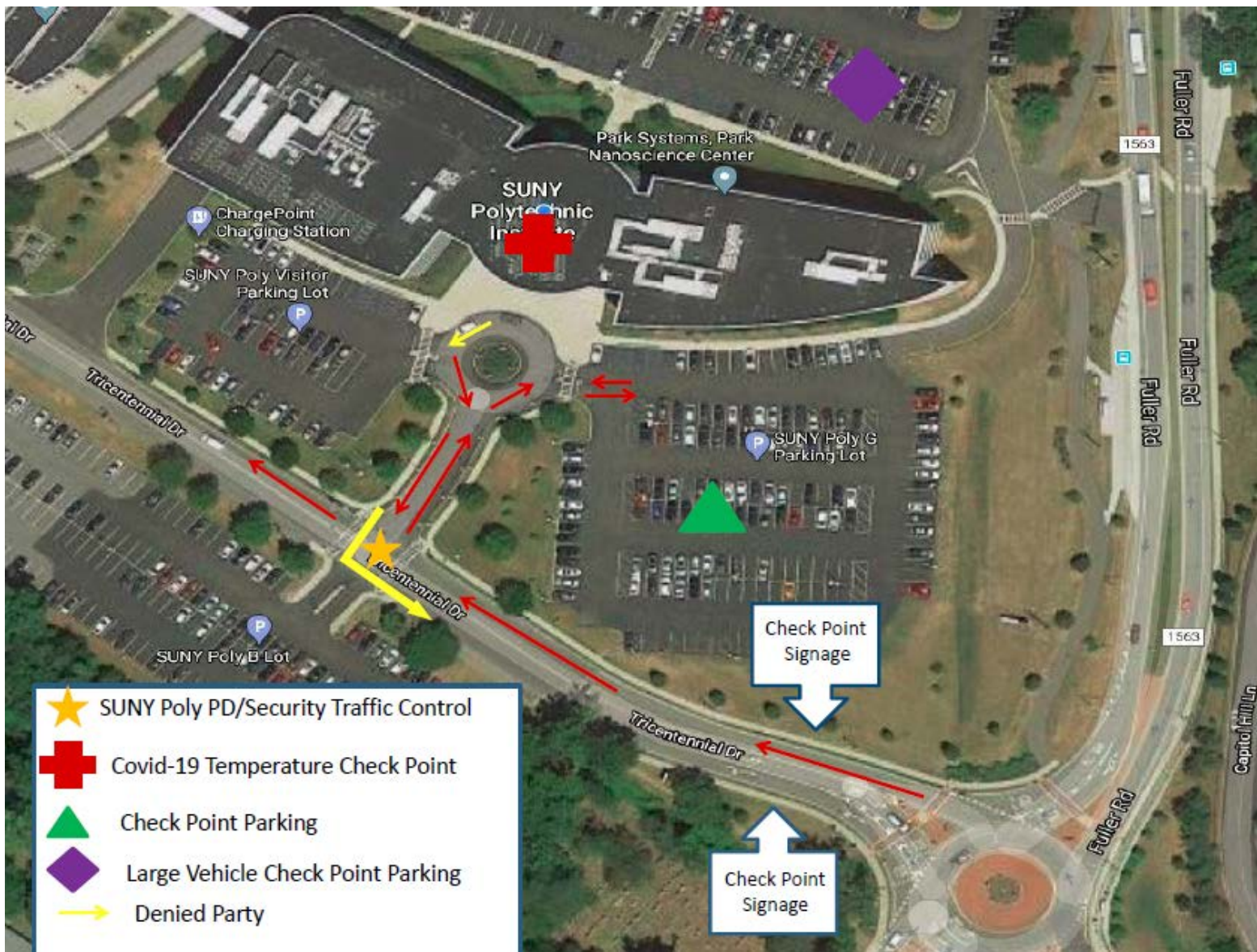
- Employees shall not report to or be allowed to remain at work or job site if sick or symptomatic with two or more of these symptoms:
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - New loss of taste or smell

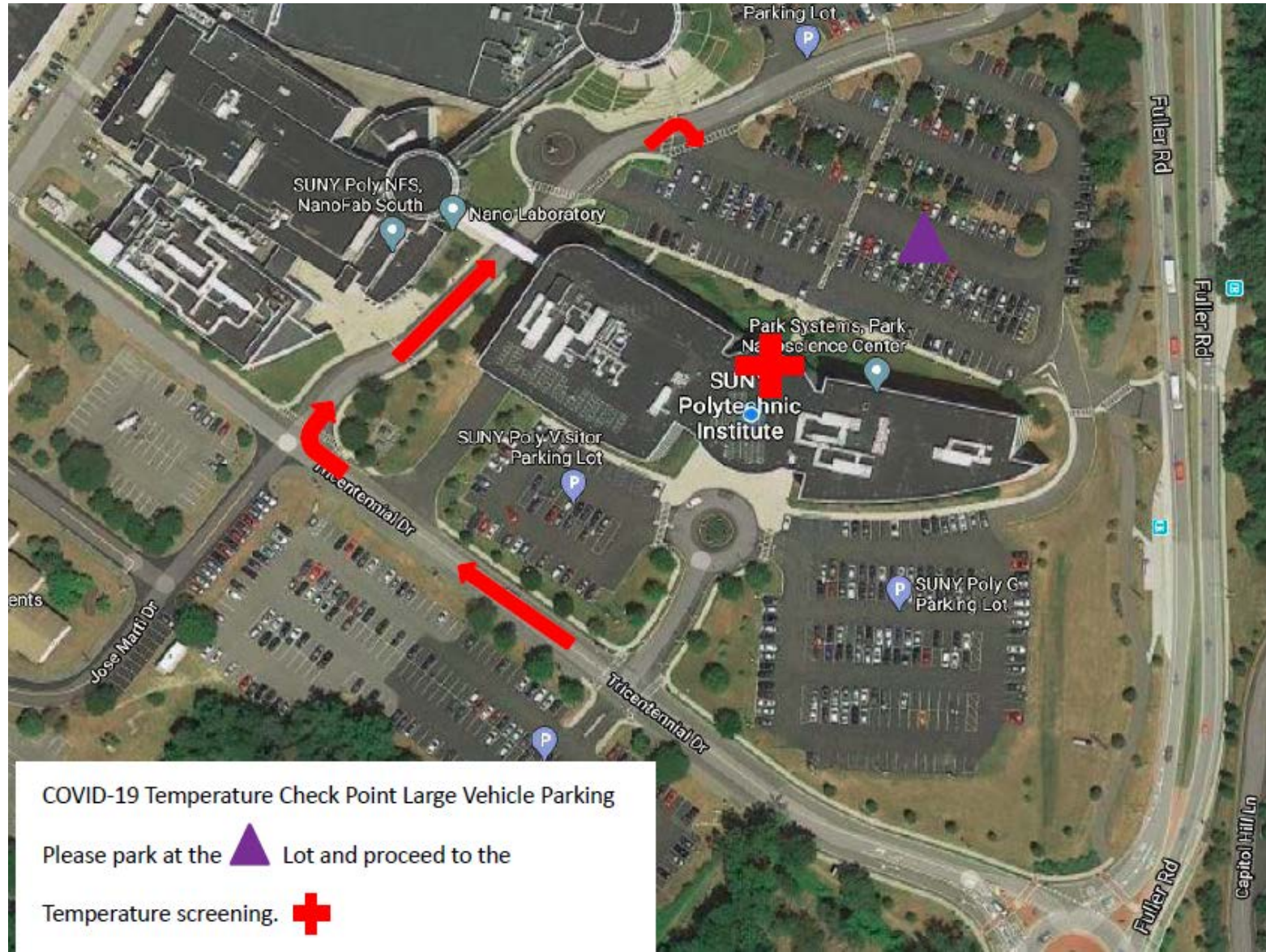
- Non-symptomatic COVID-19 positive workers are not allowed on site

- Any worker(s) who have contact with a worker or any other person who is diagnosed with COVID-19 are required to quarantine for 14 days.

- **If you are experiencing symptoms, been in close contact or tested positive for COVID-19 contact your HR department or site representative.**

- Prior to the commencement of each work shift, pre-screening such as temperature checks are required for each person entering the site.
 - A temperature of 100.4°F/38°C or higher, is considered a fever, as according to the CDC




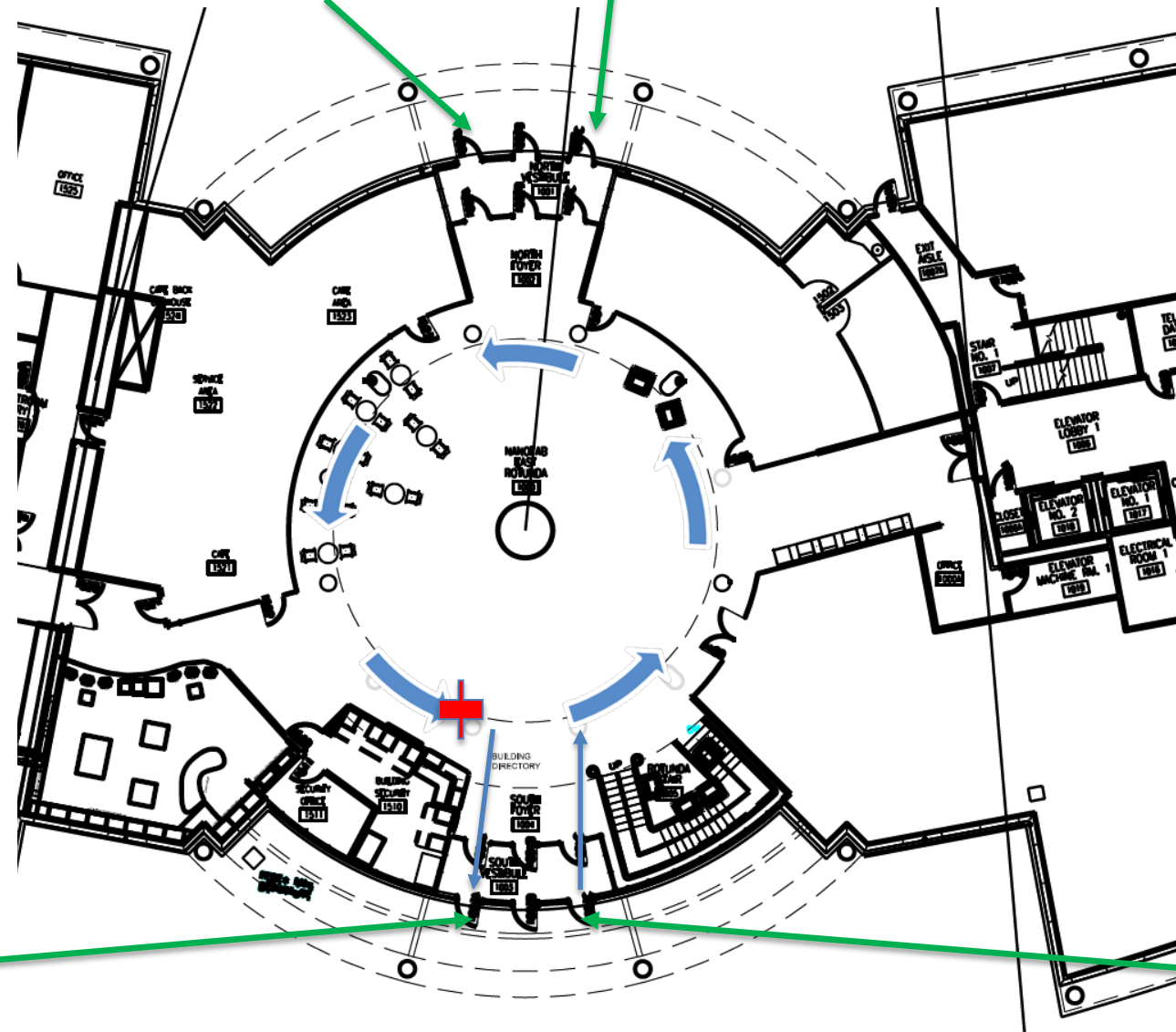


Foot Traffic in the Rotunda for Temperature Screening

Large Vehicle Operator Entrance

Large Vehicle Operator Exit

 Temperature Screener Location



Exit for all except: Large Vehicle Operators

Entrance for all except: Large Vehicle Operators

- All employees must observe strict social distancing of ≥ 6 feet while on site and should refrain from touching their faces.
- No congregation, in all common areas including but not limited to hallways, rotundas and stairwells, of employees is allowed.
- All common areas, such as break rooms, conference rooms, elevators and cafeterias, but excluding restrooms, have restricted occupancy due to social distancing.

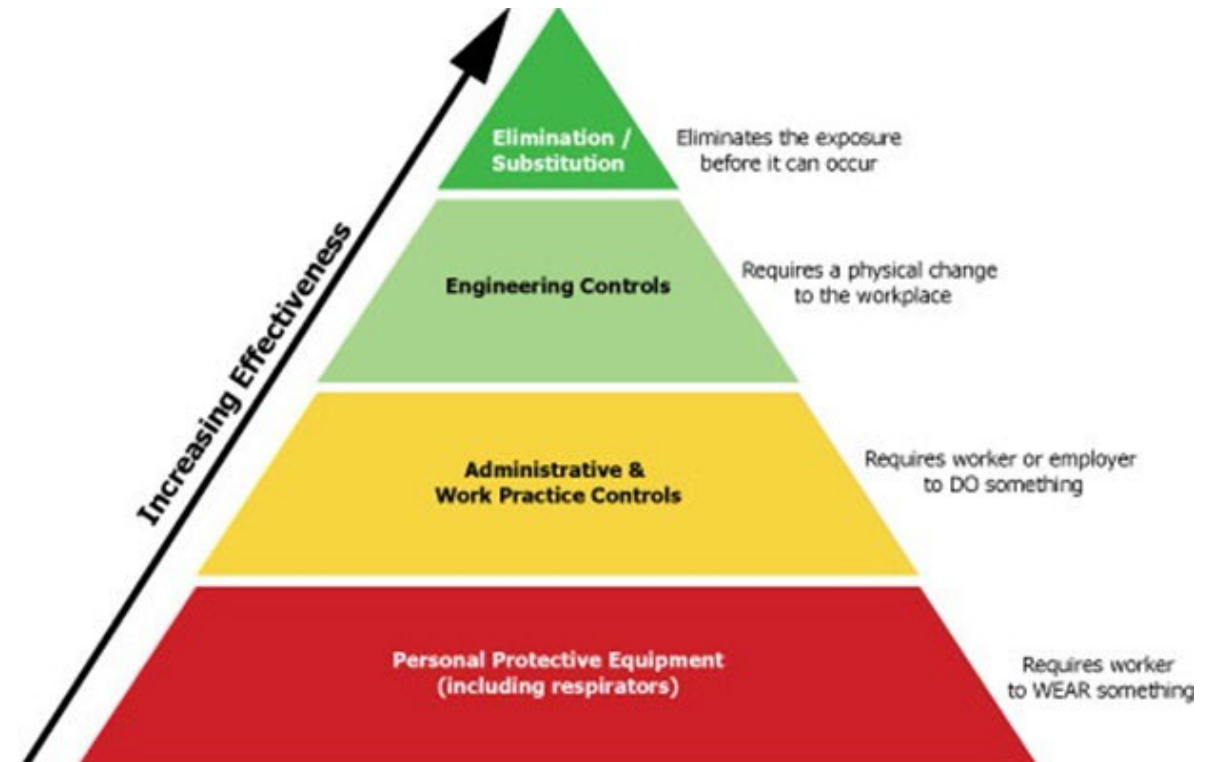
- No more than 2 people shall occupy one company owned vehicle, and must wear a face covering.
- Employees must wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when in common areas such as hallways, vestibules, labs and rotundas as well as anytime a distance of 6 feet cannot be maintained from others.

- All common spaces and equipment, including bathrooms, frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis.
- Employees will have access to soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- Individual NYS Clean hand sanitizer bottles are available at the temperature screening area in NFE and may be refilled there, as well.

Everyone entering the site must wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when in common areas as well as anytime a distance of 6 feet cannot be maintained from others any time they are interacting with others.

GUIDANCE FOR EMPLOYERS or MANAGERS

- Start with assessing the hazards in your workplace
- Just as in all other hazards, the “Hierarchy of Controls” is an important concept



- Tasks should be evaluated for the possibility of working remotely
- Meetings/conferences and trainings should be done via the internet/virtually
- Interactions should be via the internet/virtually, when possible
- Employee-to-employee contact should be limited by spreading out workstations
- Employees should be encouraged to stay home if they feel ill.

- Consider physical barriers to prevent spread;
 - Evaluated on a case by case basis
- Isolation of tasks should be considered where possible

- Work Practice Controls can be very effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19
- Understand the basic principles of prevention:
 - Social distancing
 - Hand washing and hand sanitizing
 - Regularly cleaning and disinfecting

GUIDANCE FOR EMPLOYEES

- NYCREATES has a plan to address the spread of COVID-19.

- The plan encompass, but is not limited to, the following;
 - Modifying the workplace
 - Social Distancing
 - Cleaning and Disinfecting
 - Requiring face coverings in common areas
 - Temperature Screening



- Handwashing is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your family from getting sick.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Practice good and frequent hand hygiene.
 - Watch a short video on why you should wash your hands for 20 seconds. [Video](#)
 - Use hand sanitizer when you can't use soap and water
 - Follow good cough/sneeze etiquette
 - Avoid touching the eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.



- Masks are an important tool in protection from the spread of COVID-19 virus. In addition to the Governor’s Executive Order, the CDC recommends wearing a face covering in public settings.

FACE COVERINGS SHOULD:

- FIT SNUGLY BUT COMFORTABLY AGAINST THE SIDE OF THE FACE
- BE SECURED WITH TIES OR EAR LOOPS AND INCLUDE MULTIPLE LAYERS OF FABRIC
- BE ABLE TO BE LAUNDERED AND MACHINE DRIED WITHOUT DAMAGE OR CHANGE TO SHAPE
- ALLOW FOR BREATHING WITHOUT RESTRICTION



NEW CDC GUIDANCE

Wear a cloth face covering in public when social distancing is difficult to maintain.

The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders.

Please direct questions and/or concerns regarding this guidance to your managers.

- OSHA guidance for construction worker safety can be found [here](#)
- OSHA guidance for manufacturing worker safety can be found [here](#)
- Visit OSHA's website at <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>
- Visit CDC COVID-19 website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- Visit NYS Department of Health at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>
- Visit SUNY Poly COVID-19 website at <https://sunypoly.edu/covid19.html>