



WFLO INSTITUTE WEBINARS

GCCA's Core Provider of Education & Training

GCCA Update on COVID-19

May 20, 2021





Phone lines are muted throughout the broadcast.

Please ask questions using the “Questions” panel in your **GoTo**Webinar toolbar.

We will hold questions until the end of the webinar and will answer as many questions as time permits.

This session is being recorded and will be made available to all members following the broadcast.



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Agenda

- Updated CDC Guidance
- OSHA and other agency response
- USDA Supply Chain Review
- COVID related tax policies
- Unemployment policies and job market
- GCCA Resources
- Q&A

CDC Guidance for Vaccinated People

- Issued on May 13th – Major shift in approach to vaccinated people
- If you are fully vaccinated, you can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic.
- Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.
- If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.

Guiding Principles

- Indoor and outdoor activities pose minimal risk to fully vaccinated people.
- Fully vaccinated people have a reduced risk of transmitting SARS-CoV-2 to unvaccinated people.
- Fully vaccinated people should still get tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Fully vaccinated people should not visit private or public settings if they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the prior 10 days or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Fully vaccinated people should continue to follow any applicable federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations.

Choosing Safer Activities

Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.html>

		Unvaccinated People	Examples of Activities	Fully Vaccinated People
			Outdoor	
Safest			Walk, run, wheelchair roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
			Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
			Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe			Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe			Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	

Indoor

Less Safe



Visit a barber or hair salon



Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum



Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households



Least Safe



Go to an indoor movie theater



Attend a full-capacity worship service



Sing in an indoor chorus



Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar



Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class



Safest

OSHA Response to CDC Guidance

- “The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued new guidance relating to recommended precautions for people who are fully vaccinated, which is applicable to activities outside of healthcare and a few other environments. OSHA is reviewing the recent CDC guidance and will update our materials on this website accordingly. Until those updates are complete, please refer to the CDC guidance for information on measures appropriate to protect fully vaccinated workers.”
- We are awaiting updated guidance from OSHA, particularly on how they will view masks in workplace
- Impact on potential ETS is unclear

OSHA COVID Emergency Temporary Standard

- ETS still under review at White House
- Continued meetings with stakeholders
 - GCCA participated in White House meeting – stressed that ETS is not needed, but urged flexibility, if an ETS is issued
- New CDC guidance could impact outlook for ETS
- California proposing revisions to its ETS
 - Relaxing restrictions in light of increases in vaccinations

Reminder: OSHA National Emphasis Program on COVID in effect

- March 12th – OSHA issued Directive establishing a new National Emphasis Program (NEP) on COVID
- Describes policies and procedures to ensure that employees in high-hazard industries are protected from COVID hazards
- Warehousing a targeted industry
- Expect increased enforcement



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OSHA DIRECTION

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

DIRECTIVE NUMBER: DIR 2021-01 (CPL-03) | EFFECTIVE DATE: March 12, 2021

SUBJECT: National Emphasis Program – Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

ABSTRACT

Purpose:

This Direction describes policies and procedures for implementing a National Emphasis Program (NEP) to ensure that employees in high-hazard industries or work tasks are protected from the hazard of contracting SARS-CoV-2 (severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2), the cause of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The NEP augments OSHA's efforts addressing unprogrammed COVID-19-related activities, e.g., complaints, referrals, and severe incident reports, by adding a component to target specific high-hazard industries or activities where this hazard is prevalent. The NEP targets establishments that have workers with increased potential exposure to this hazard, and that puts the largest number of workers at serious risk. In addition, this NEP includes an added focus to ensure that workers are protected from retaliation, and are accomplishing this by preventing retaliation where possible, distributing anti-retaliation information during inspections, and outreach opportunities, as well as promptly referring allegations of retaliation to the Whistleblower Protection Program.

Scope:

This Direction applies OSHA-wide.

References:

[Presidential Executive Order on Protecting Worker Health and Safety](#), January 21, 2021.

Section 5(a)(1) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act), [29 U.S.C. § 654](#).

OSHA Instruction, [CPL 02-00-164](#), *Field Operations Manual (FOM)*, April 14, 2020.

OSHA Instruction, [CPL 02-03-007](#), *Whistleblower Investigations Manual*, January 28, 2016.

OSHA Guidance, [Protecting Workers: Guidance on Mitigating and Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in the Workplace](#), January 29, 2021.

(See [Section III](#) for additional references.)

Cancellations:

None.

FSIS Response to CDC Guidance

Effective immediately FSIS has instructed in-plant personnel to follow this guidance:

- If they are fully vaccinated, they are no longer required to wear a face mask and face shield or practice physical distancing in plants provided your establishment does not require it.
- If your establishment requires face masks and/or face shields, FSIS employees will continue to follow your requirements.
- Fully vaccinated FSIS personnel may elect to continue wearing face masks and/or face shields based on their level of comfort.
- If they are not fully vaccinated (at least 2 weeks past your final dose), [CDC guidance](#) indicates they should continue to wear a face mask and shield and maintain physical distancing consistent with the requirements set forth in the [workplace safety plan](#).
- FSIS inspection personnel will continue to follow requirements establishments have for their personnel to control exposure, including face masks, face shields, and monitoring procedures.

USDA Supply Chain Review

- GCCA joined with food and agriculture industry partners requesting an extension of comment period for USDA supply chain review
- USDA granted request on May 17th by extending period by 30 days
- GCCA Government Affairs Committee working on industry comments

GCCA Supply Chain Comments – Key Issues

- Impact of pandemic and need for support to mitigate pandemic related expenses
- Shifts in consumer patterns
- Import/export challenges and ports
 - Need for FSIS to improve efficiencies and capacity
- Importance of technology
- Labor constraints
- Material/equipment costs and availability

Tax Credits Available to Small Employers to Provide Paid Leave to Employees Receiving COVID-19 Vaccines

- Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department announced further details of tax credits available under the American Rescue Plan to help small businesses, including providing paid leave for employees receiving COVID-19 vaccinations.
- Organizations with fewer than 500 employees and certain governmental employers, can receive a tax credit for providing paid time off for each employee receiving the vaccine and for any time needed to recover from the vaccine.

OSHA Issues Employer Guidance on Recording Adverse Vaccine Reactions

- OSHA issued guidance stating employers that require workers to receive Covid-19 vaccinations may need to record adverse reactions in the workplace illness logs they are required to share with the federal government.
- Employers that recommend the vaccine, but don't require it, don't need to record adverse reactions.

Update on the Impact of the American Rescue Plan – Unemployment Provisions

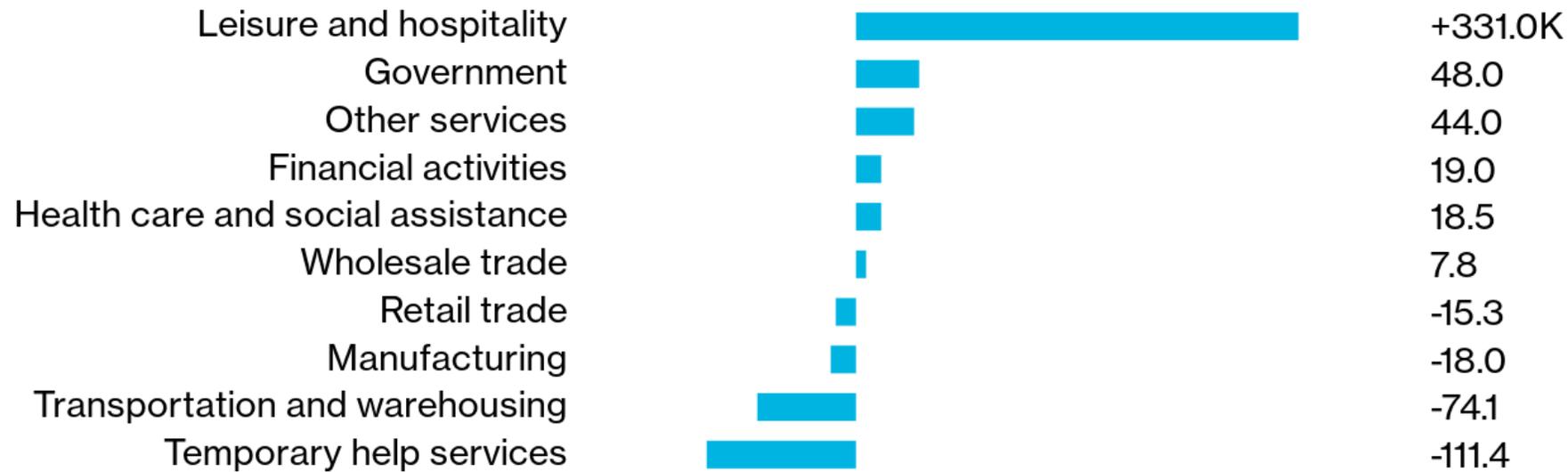
- ARP extended supplemental unemployment benefits that were previously scheduled to start running out March 14. The bill extended the weekly federal benefit of \$300 a week through Sept. 6.
- Original proposal was to increase weekly amount to \$400/week, but was revised to \$300 as a result of Senate negotiations

Jobs Gains Decreased as Unemployment Rate Inched Up

- Jobless rate increased to 6.1% in April, from 6% the previous month
- Economy gained 266,000 jobs following the 770,000 payroll-gain in March
 - Employment remains about 8.2 million less than the pre-pandemic level in February 2020
- Number of permanent job losses slightly increased to 3.5 million, from 3.4 million
 - Permanent losses have increased by 2.2 million since February 2020
 - Workers on temporary layoff increased to 2.1 million, from 2 million in March

Gains in Leisure, Hospitality Continue As Restrictions Ease, but Transportation and Warehousing still down

Change in Number of Jobs from March 2021



Varied Changes in Jobless Rates Among Other Demographics

- Unemployment rate for men increased to 6.1% in April, from 5.8% in March
 - Rate among women decreased to 5.6%, from 5.7%
- Younger workers still disproportionately affected despite some job gains
 - Teenagers aged 16-19 had highest jobless rate at 12.3%, down from 13%
 - Rate for individuals aged 20-24 years increased to 10.5%, from 10.3%
- Employment situation also varied by education levels
 - 1.1 percentage point increase to 9.3% in jobless rate for adults without high school diploma
 - Slight decrease to 3.5% for those with a bachelor's degree and higher education
 - 76% of adults who teleworked because of the pandemic had a bachelor's degree and higher

Increasing number of Governors Rejecting Extra Federal Unemployment Benefits

- At least 21 states—all with Republican governors—are set to stop participating in the federal government's supplemental unemployment benefits program, which provides an extra \$300 a week to the jobless, as many Republican officials are claiming the payments disincentivize workers to get back on the job.

State Timelines on Ending Federal Government's Supplemental Unemployment

- Missouri, Iowa, Mississippi and Alaska all plan to drop the benefits on June 12, which is the earliest date states are allowed to leave the program.
- New Hampshire will end the additional federal government unemployment benefits on June 19.
- Indiana, Alabama, West Virginia, Idaho, North Dakota and Wyoming are all planning to opt out on Texas, Ohio, Georgia, Utah, Oklahoma, Arkansas and South Dakota will cease payments on June 26.
- Montana Gov. Greg Gianforte (R) said he would withdraw the state from the program by June 27, also claiming Montana was being plagued by a labor shortage.

State Timelines on ending Federal Government's Supplemental Unemployment

- South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster (R) said his state would end federal benefits at the end of June.
- Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee (R) announced the state will stop participating in the federal government's supplemental unemployment benefits program on July 3.
- Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey said his state will stop paying federal benefits on July 10.
- Some states are offering incentives to citizens to return to work. Arizona is offering a \$2000 return-to-work bonus, Montana and Oklahoma are both offering a \$1200 incentive, and New Hampshire is offering \$1000 bonus for full-time employees and \$500 for part-time.

Senate Democrats Push for Jobless Aid Expansion

- Senators Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Michael Bennet (D-CO) are pushing for a permanent enhancement of the federal unemployment benefits program to be included in the infrastructure-led package proposed by President Biden.
- The proposal would include benefit “triggers” that kick in when unemployment rises, with additional weeks of benefits. The plan would also require states to offer 26 weeks of benefits at 75% of the worker’s previous wages, up to a set maximum. Depending on a state’s current benefit levels, that could require an increase to the amount of aid as well.

GCCA Resource: COVID-19 Recovery Guide

Follow-up to GCCA COVID-19 Rapid Response Guide.

Guides businesses through two stages of recovery:

- Bringing your workforce back on-site
- Ensuring continued safety and well-being



Essential Worker Designation and Badges

INSERT COMPANY LOGO



FIRST NAME LAST NAME

Company Name

Facility Address Line 1
Facility City, State Zip
United States

**Designated Essential Critical Infrastructure Worker
by U.S. Department of Homeland Security CISA**

**Frontline Workers in Food and Agriculture and
Transportation and Logistics have been categorized
as Essential Workers by the U.S. Centers for Disease
Control for purposes of vaccine prioritization**



Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

- Workers supporting groceries, pharmacies, convenience stores, and other retail (including unattended and vending) that sells human food, animal/pet food and pet supply, and beverage products, including retail customer support service and information technology support staff necessary for online orders, pickup and delivery.
- Restaurant carry-out and quick serve food operations, including dark kitchen and food prep centers, and carry-out and delivery food employees.
- Food manufacturer employees and their supplier employees—to include those employed in food ingredient production and processing facilities; livestock, poultry, seafood slaughter facilities; pet and animal feed processing facilities; human food facilities producing by-products for animal food; beverage production facilities; and the production of food packaging.
- Farmers, farm workers, and agribusiness support services to include those employed in auction and sales; grain and oilseed handling, processing and distribution; animal food, feed, and ingredient production, packaging, and distribution; manufacturing, packaging, and distribution of veterinary drugs; truck delivery and transport; farm and fishery labor needed to produce our food supply domestically and for export.
- Farmers, farm workers, support service workers, and their supplier employees to include those engaged in producing and harvesting field crops, commodity inspection; fuel ethanol facilities; biodiesel and renewable diesel facilities; storage facilities; and other agricultural inputs.
- Employees and firms supporting the distribution of food, feed, and beverage and ingredients used in these products, including warehouse workers, vendor-managed inventory controllers and blockchain managers.
- Workers supporting the sanitation and pest control of all food manufacturing processes and operations from wholesale to retail.
- Employees engaged in the manufacture and maintenance of equipment and other infrastructure necessary for agricultural production and distribution.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

- Workers supporting the distribution of food, pharmaceuticals (including materials used in radioactive drugs) and other medical materials, fuels, chemicals needed for water or water treatment and energy Maintenance and operation of essential highway infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and tunnels (e.g., traffic operations centers and moveable bridge operators).
- Employees of firms providing services, supplies, and equipment that enable warehouse and operations, including cooling, storing, packaging, and distributing products for wholesale or retail sale or use. Includes cold- and frozen-chain logistics for food and critical biologic products.
- Warehouse operators, including vendors and support personnel critical for business continuity (including HVAC & electrical engineers; security personnel; and janitorial staff) and customer service for essential functions.
- Employees supporting or enabling transportation functions, including truck drivers, bus drivers, dispatchers, maintenance and repair technicians, warehouse workers, truck stop and rest area workers, Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) employees, towing/recovery services, roadside assistance workers, intermodal transportation personnel, and workers who maintain and inspect infrastructure (including those that require cross-jurisdiction travel).

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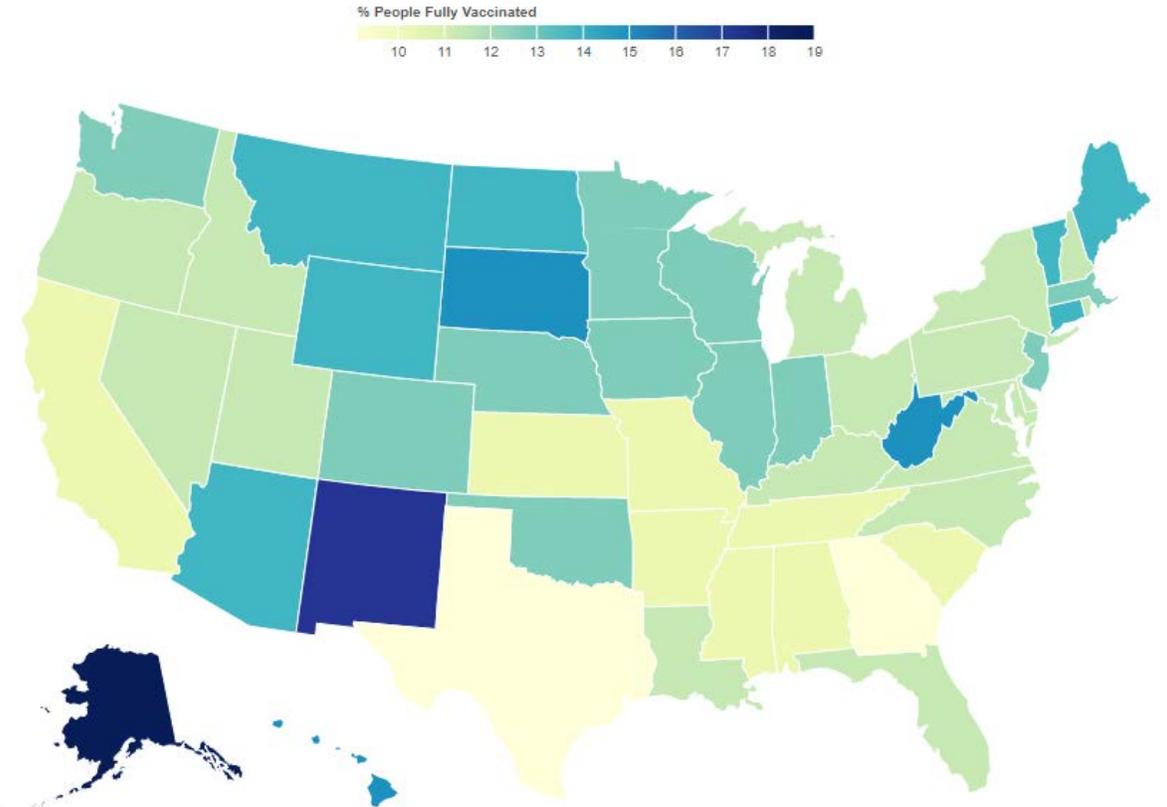
 [linkedin.com/company/cybersecurity-and-infrastructure-security-agency](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cybersecurity-and-infrastructure-security-agency)



Vaccination Progress State-by-State

Johns Hopkins University
Coronavirus Resource Center

- State metrics
- International metrics
- Global cases and trends, updated daily



GCCA Resources

- WFLO Scientific Advisory Council
- GCCA Online Communities

What is the urgency of your request? *

- Urgent
- Somewhat Urgent
- Not Urgent

Please describe your inquiry with as much detail as possible. *

3PL Supply Chain Forum

Settings

Community Home

Discussion 621

Library 31

Members 7.2K

Back to discussions

What are your questions about COVID-19?

>  Catharine Perry yesterday
[You might have seen the GCCA member email that went out today about what the ass](#)

1. What are your questions about COVID-19?

Posted yesterday

COVID Survey

- Help us evaluate the pandemic-related resources and communication channels that will support you as you continue to adapt to the changing business landscape.
- Scan this QR code or use the link in chat to answer a short, seven-question survey.



QUESTIONS?

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