



WFLO INSTITUTE WEBINARS

GCCA's Core Provider of Education & Training

GCCA Update on COVID-19

April 15, 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.



Speakers and Moderator



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Agenda

- OSHA and CDC updates
- American Rescue Plan
- American Jobs Plan – Grassroots Opportunity
- GCCA Resources
- Q&A

Doug Parker Nominated to Head OSHA

- Current CAL OSHA Chief
- Former Obama Administration official at MSHA
- Led development of California COVID standard
- Parker likely restart many Obama-era rules or begin enforcing those rules, including
 - 2016 anti-retaliation rule concerning drug testing policies
 - Injury and illness reporting rules
 - Safety incentive programs
 - Process Safety Management
- Biden Administration aiming to double OSHA inspection capacity
- Biden budget outline proposed 17 percent increase in worker protection agencies

PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE COVID-19 RESPONSE AND PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

JANUARY 2021



Biden COVID Strategy

- Goal 1: Restore trust with the American people.
- Goal 2: Mount a safe, effective, comprehensive vaccination campaign.
- Goal 3: Mitigate spread through expanding masking, testing, treatment, data, workforce, and clear public health standards.
- Goal 4: Immediately expand emergency relief and exercise the Defense Production Act.
- Goal 5: Safely reopen schools, businesses, and travel, while protecting workers.
- Goal 6: Protect those most at risk and advance equity, including across racial, ethnic and rural/urban lines.
- Goal 7: Restore U.S. leadership globally and build better preparedness for future threats.

OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard – Status Update

- Biden Executive Order called on OSHA to make a decision on issuing an ETS by March 15th
- Already a month delayed, newly confirmed Labor Secretary Walsh has called for a review of the latest science before finalizing
- Appears there are two ETS documents drafted, one for healthcare and one for other businesses
- Some are speculating the drafts take a more “Virginia” approach than “California”

OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard – Status Update

- While most believe an ETS will ultimately be issued, some on the left are expressing concerns with the delay
- Any ETS would quickly be challenged in courts
 - Track record shows some success with such challenges
- The more time that passes with higher rates of vaccinations, the more difficult the argument that immediate action is needed through an ETS
- Regardless of ETS status, expect increased OSHA enforcement on COVID issues

OSHA National Emphasis Program on COVID

- 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



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.

Table 2. Targeted Industries for non-Healthcare by 2017 NAICS

NAICS Code	Industry
311612	Meat Processed from Carcasses
311611	Animal (except Poultry) Slaughtering
311615	Poultry Processing
445110	Supermarkets and Other Grocery (except Convenience) Stores
452112	Discount Department Stores
493110	General Warehousing and Storage
561320	Temporary Help Services*
722511	Full-Service Restaurants
722513	Limited-Service Restaurants
922140	Correctional Institutions

Considerations for Company Mask Policies

- Several states have lifted their mask mandates
- Raises questions about company policies towards face coverings
- While state policies may be relaxing, federal policies likely to tighten
- Even without an ETS, current OSHA guidance emphasizes the importance of masks

Protecting Workers: Guidance on Mitigating and Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in the Workplace

- NOTE: There is currently no OSHA standard specific to COVID-19; however, employers still are required under the **General Duty Clause** to provide a safe and healthful workplace that is free from recognized hazards that can cause serious physical harm or death.
- “**Face Coverings**, either cloth face coverings or surgical masks, are simple barriers that help prevent respiratory droplets from your nose and mouth from reaching others. Face coverings protect those around you, in case you are infected but do not know it, and can also reduce your own exposure to infection in certain circumstances. Wearing a face covering is complementary to and not a replacement for physical distancing.”

Protecting Workers: Guidance on Mitigating and Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in the Workplace

- **“Suppressing the Spread of the Hazard Using Face Coverings”**
- “Provide all workers with face coverings (i.e., cloth face coverings, surgical masks), unless their work task requires a respirator. Employers should provide face coverings to the workers at no cost.”
- “Require any other individuals at the workplace (e.g., visitors, customers, non-employees) to wear a face covering unless they are under the age of 2 or are actively consuming food or beverages on site.”

CDC Clarifies Risks of Transmission from Surfaces

- CDC recently released a Science Brief on Surface (Fomite) Transmission for Indoor Community Environments
- Reviews available science on transmission
- Finds that it is possible for people to be infected through contact with contaminated surfaces or objects (fomites), but the risk is generally considered to be low.
- Contact with a contaminated surface has less than a 1 in 10,000 chance of causing an infection
- Risks can be further reduced by wearing masks (which reduces droplets that can be deposited on surfaces), routine cleaning, and consistent hand hygiene
- **NOTE:** OSHA Guidance calls on employers to perform routine cleaning and disinfection

COVID Relief Resources – Food Supply Chain

- GCCA met with Congress, White House and USDA on industry response to pandemic and economic impacts
- American Rescue Plan includes \$4 billion for strengthening food supply chain
- COVID Stimulus Package includes \$1.5 billion
- GCCA submitted formal comments calling for grants and loans to help industry mitigate added expenses for PPE/cleaning, detention/demurrage and labor
- Requests loans to address future capital needs

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.

IRS Provides Guidance on the Employee Retention Credit

- The Employee Retention Credit under the CARES Act encourages businesses to keep employees on their payroll. The refundable tax credit is 50% of up to \$10,000 in wages paid by an eligible employer whose business has been financially impacted by COVID-19.
- The newly issued guidance on April 2 makes the following changes to the first and second calendar quarters of 2021:
 - Increase in the maximum credit amount to 70% of qualified wages
 - The expansion of the category of employers that may be eligible to claim the credit
 - Revisions to the definition of qualified wages
 - New restrictions on the ability of eligible employers to request an advance payment of the credit

The American Jobs Plan

- On March 31, President Biden unveiled a \$2.25 trillion U.S. infrastructure plan
- Proposal would largely be paid for by tax hikes on businesses.
- The American Jobs Plan is a four-part, eight-year plan that would invest in:
 - Transportation
 - Improving quality of life at home
 - Strengthening American manufacturing
 - Improved care for the elderly and people with disabilities

Corporate Tax Increases Would Raise \$2 Trillion Over 15 Years

- Plan would be funded by several tax changes to corporate income, including:
 - Increasing the corporate tax rate to 28%, from 21%
 - Imposing a 15% minimum tax on income reported to shareholders by large corporations
- Offshore earnings, jobs also would be targeted
 - Minimum tax on profits U.S. companies earn abroad would be increased to 21%, from about 13%; rates would be calculated on a country-by-country basis
 - Would encourage other countries to adopt “strong” minimum taxes and make corporate inversions more difficult
 - Also would eliminate deductions for expenses related to offshore jobs and tax incentives for foreign derived intangible income

Take Action – Help GCCA Fight Tax Hikes On Your Businesses

- While we support investments in infrastructure, raising taxes on the nation's essential businesses in the middle of a pandemic is not the right policy direction.
- The tax reforms achieved in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 have created jobs and increased wages, strengthening the nation's critical infrastructure and supply chain.
- Raising taxes would jeopardize this progress and would make it more difficult for members of the supply chain industry to drive America's economic recovery.

Advocacy.gcca.org

Oppose the American Jobs Plan's Tax Hikes

On March 31, 2021, President Biden unveiled the American Jobs Plan that contains a \$2.25 trillion U.S. infrastructure plan paid for by tax hikes on your businesses. While we support investments in infrastructure, raising taxes on the nation's essential businesses in the middle of a pandemic is not the right policy direction. The tax reforms achieved in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 have created jobs and increased wages, strengthening the nation's critical infrastructure and supply chain. Raising taxes would jeopardize this progress and would make it more difficult for members of the supply chain industry to drive America's economic recovery.

Let your voice be heard and help protect your business from these harmful tax hikes! Take action now and contact your representative and tell them you oppose the tax hikes proposed in the American Jobs Plan!

Take Action Now!

Congress must act! Fill out this form to find your representatives and contact them on this important issue.

First & Last Name

Email

Address

City

Zip



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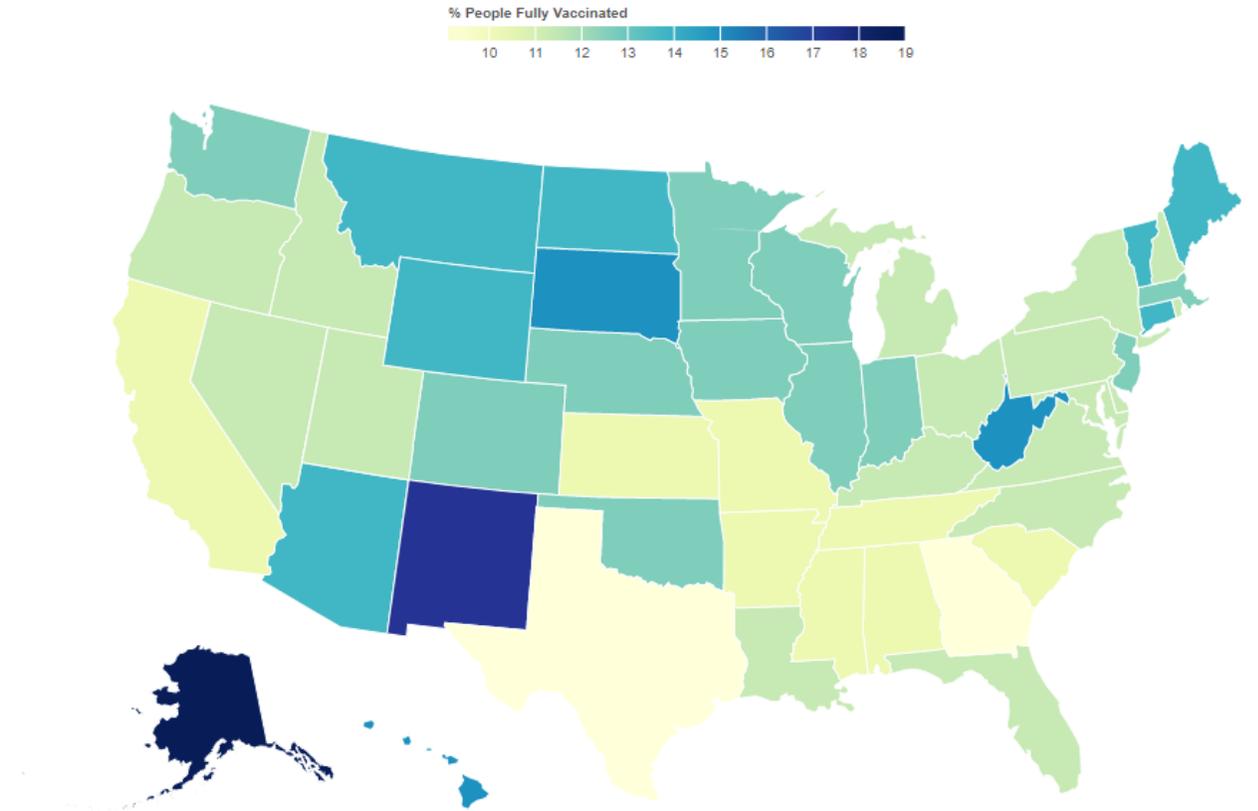
 [linkedin.com/company/cybersecurity-and-infrastructure-security-agency](https://www.linkedin.com/company/cybersecurity-and-infrastructure-security-agency)



Vaccination Progress State-by-State

Johns Hopkins University
Coronavirus Resource Center

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



State Vaccination Program Resources

AutoSave Off State Vaccine Plans - Read-Only - Excel Lowell Randel

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Help

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Styles Cells Editing Ideas Sensitivity

Search AZ State Plan

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	State	Essential Workers Phase	Plan Link	Current Status	Other Relevant Links	POD Information					
2	Alabama	Phase 1B (frontline essential), 1C (other essential)	AL State Plan	Phase 1A	AL Vaccination Providers	AL Provider Program Roadmap					
3					AL Vaccine Information						
4	Alaska	Phase 1B, Tier 2 (frontline essential), Phase 1C (other essential)	AK State Plan	Phase 1B (persons 65+)	AK Vaccine Availability Framework	AK Program Enrollment Instructions					
5					AZ 1B Essential Employer Request Form						
6	Arizona	Phase 1B	AZ State Plan	Phase 1B (in some counties)	AZ Vaccine Phases by County	AZ Pandemic Provider Onboarding					
7					AZ Vaccine Availability Infographic						
8	Arkansas	Phase 1B	AR State Plan	Phase 1B (Teachers and school staff; Persons 70+)	AR Phasing Information	AR Vaccine Provider Program					
9					CA Vaccination Information						
10	California	Phase 1B, Tier 2 (frontline essential), Phase 1C (other essential)	CA State Plan	Phase 1B, Tier 1	CA Recommendations for Moving through Phases and Tiers	CA Enrollment Resources					
11					CA Revision of Allocation Guidelines						
12					CA Vaccine Doses						

Sheet1

10:20 AM 1/23/2021

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

QUESTIONS?

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