

Food Service Establishment Protocols for COVID-19 Case

This document provides guidance for food service establishments with food employees that are positive for COVID-19, or presumed positive because the employee is showing symptoms of COVID-19. Some symptoms of COVID-19 include coughing, fever (100.4°F and above) and shortness of breath.

Food Employee Positive for COVID-19, or Food Employee Presumed Positive Due to Symptoms:

- If employee is onsite, send them home **IMMEDIATELY**.
- If the employee is at home, do not allow the employee to come back to work.
- Contact NKY Health at 859-341-4151 (M-F, 8a-5p), or after hours at 859-341-4264, Option 3.
 - NKY Health staff will assist with next steps, including guidelines for exposed co-workers.

Disposition of Food

- Discard all prepared and unpackaged food items handled by or exposed to employee.
- If possible, wipe down intact, unopened packaging with your daily sanitizer using normal concentrations (50-100ppm for chlorine; 150-400ppm for quaternary ammonia).

Single Service Items

- Discard any unpackaged single service items handled by or exposed to employee.
- If possible, wipe down intact, unopened packaging with your daily sanitizer using normal concentrations (50-100ppm for chlorine; 150-400ppm for quaternary ammonia).

Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfection

- Chlorine Bleach (Regular/Unscented): Mix and use the chlorine solution promptly.
 - 1 2/3 cup bleach in 1 gallon of cold water. This yields 5000ppm, and is extremely stronger compared to normal concentrations.
 - Use on frequently touched, hard surfaces, and allow to air dry.
 - Cleaning and disinfection staff should wear gloves, gowns and eye protection.
- Additional EPA products effective for COVID-19 can be found at –
<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>
- **When used on a food contact surface, rinse with water afterwards.**

Positive or Presumed Positive Employee Returning to Work

- If possible, the employee should obtain medical clearance from their health care provider.
- If medical clearance is not possible, they may return to work after –
 - Three full days with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; AND
 - All other symptoms have improved (coughing, shortness of breath, etc.); AND
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- **All three of the above conditions must be met.**

For further assistance, please contact NKY Health at 859-341-4151 (M-F, 8a-5p) or visit our website at www.nkyhealth.org.