



*This COVID-19 email update focuses on breaking news from the Governor's office released this afternoon on relaxations of business closures for certain non-customer-facing businesses. We will share additional updates and information on this executive order as it becomes available!*

**Certain Non-Customer-Facing Businesses Can Reopen April 27<sup>th</sup> with Required COVID-19 Plan**

On Thursday, Governor Walz signed [Executive Order 20-40](#), which allows certain types of non-critical businesses to reopen on April 27<sup>th</sup> if they follow certain guidelines. This order would allow between 80,000 and 100,000 workers in Minnesota to return to work. However, there are several requirements and steps that businesses must take before reopening. It does NOT allow for the reopening of all non-critical business types and restricts the kind of work that these newly exempted businesses can perform.

***Here are key points from the executive order:***

- All workers who can work from home must continue to do so.
- Business types covered are non-critical exempt businesses in “industrial and manufacturing” or “office-based” businesses.
- The exemption does NOT include any customer-facing retail environments associated with either industrial/manufacturing or office-based businesses.
- The business must establish and implement a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan that implements [MNOSHA](#) standards and [MDH](#) and [CDC](#) guidelines around COVID-19 in their specific workplaces.

The plan must be developed, implemented, and signed and certified by senior management at the business, affirming their commitment to implement and follow the plan. It must be provided in writing to all workers, AND the plan must be posted where it can be readily reviewed by all workers. The businesses must ensure that training is provided to all workers on the contents of their plan, and workers and management must work together to ensure compliance with the plan.

***Here are the key pieces of content that are required to be in the plan.***

- Require work from home whenever possible.
- Ensure that sick workers stay home.
- Social distancing.
- Employee hygiene and source control.
- Cleaning and disinfection protocols.
- An optional COVID-19 Preparedness Plan template that businesses can use can be found on the [DEED website](#).

DEED has provided [guidance](#) on what is an Industrial or Office business, examples on types of work that can and cannot be completed, and how to get more information on this new executive order.



***Businesses are required to conduct health screenings of their employees upon entry each day.***

Per CDC guidelines, the following health screening questions should be asked and the data collected needs to be protected under the ADA. If an employee answers yes to any of these questions, they should be sent home.

- A new fever (100.4°F or higher), or a sense of having a fever?
- A new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- New shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- A new sore throat that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- New muscle aches that you cannot attribute to another health condition, or that may have been caused by a specific activity (such as physical exercise)?

***Have Questions? Read the FAQ website [here!](#)***

***Interested in attending a virtual training on Executive Order 20-40?***

DEED will be hosting two webinars on EO 20-40 with presenters who will talk through the process of returning workers in industrial and office-based business back to work. [Join the conversation here](#) at the following dates and times:

- Thursday, April 23 from 4 - 5:00 p.m.
- Friday, April 24 from 11:30am - 12:30 p.m.