

COVID-19

COVID-19 Workplace Screening for Non-Healthcare Settings

NOTE: Lambton Public Health provides advice based on best practices, available evidence and in the interest of employee and community health. Individual employers are responsible for decisions regarding worker safety as per the *Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act* and other applicable legislation. Along with provincial government, Lambton Public Health reminds businesses to put in place protocols for physical distancing, screening, regular hand-washing and cleaning in order to protect the health and safety of employees and the general public.

Prior to entering the workplace before every shift, each employee should complete a COVID-19 screening questionnaire:

1. Have you traveled outside of Canada in the past 14 days? Yes No
2. In the past 14 days, have you tested positive for COVID-19 or been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 without appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)? Yes No
3. Do you have any of the following symptoms? Yes No
 - Fever
 - New onset of cough
 - Worsening chronic cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Sore throat
 - Difficulty swallowing
 - Decrease of loss of sense of taste or smell
 - Chills
 - Headache
 - Unexplained tiredness or muscle aches
 - Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
 - Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
 - Runny nose or nasal congestion *without other known cause*
4. If you are 70 years of age or older, are you experiencing any of the following symptoms? Yes No N/A
 - Confused thinking (delirium)



- Unexplained or increased number of falls
- Sudden loss of self-care abilities (acute functional decline)
- Worsening of chronic conditions

If an employee answers “YES” to any of the questions or refuses to answer, then they have failed the screening and cannot enter the workplace. **The screening result is not equivalent to a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.** If a worker shows symptoms in the workplace, they should return home and self-isolate immediately. If the worker cannot leave immediately, they should be isolated until they are able to leave. Have a plan in place to deal with this and train supervisors on how to handle the situation. Ask the employee to contact their primary care provider or [Telehealth Ontario](#) at: 1-866-797-0000 for further directions about testing and self-isolation. If the worker is very ill and requires urgent medical attention, call 911 and let the operator know that the person may have COVID-19.

Immediately contact [Lambton Public Health](#) for guidance on next steps. Public health will provide instructions and do contact tracing if needed. To support contact tracing, have a system in place so you can provide information about which people had close interactions with an affected worker. This could include information such as:

- date and approximate length and frequency of interaction
- full names
- contact telephone numbers
- addresses (for workers) or the name of the visitor’s business

This checklist provides basic information only for COVID-19 screening and should be used with applicable service-specific guidance and training documents. It is not intended to take the place of medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. For additional recommended screening practices, see this information about developing your COVID-19 workplace safety plan: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/develop-your-covid-19-workplace-safety-plan#section-2>.

This information is current as of the date published or revised and may be updated as the situation on COVID-19 continues to evolve.

Additional Resources and References:

- [COVID-19 General Workplace Guidance](#) (Lambton Public Health)
- [COVID-19 Patient Screening Guidance Document](#) (Ontario Ministry of Health)
- [Guidance on COVID-19 screening \(checklist\)](#) (Infrastructure Health & Safety Association)