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## RETURN TO WORK SAFELY

By Doug Loon

Throughout the challenges presented by the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Minnesota Chamber's goal has been to strike a balance between safeguarding health and protecting Minnesota's economy. Minnesota businesses are eager to get back to work. Business operations can and should return to a sustainable level without jeopardizing employees' or customer safety.

An estimated 82% of Minnesota jobs have been deemed "essential" under Governor Walz's Executive Order 20-20 and associated guidance from the Department of Employment and Economic Development. These businesses have detailed strategies to protect their workforce from the spread of COVID-19 while ensuring continuity of operations.

Based on the best practices shared by employers in these critical industries, the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce provides the following guidelines and suggestions to assist other Minnesota businesses in their efforts to provide safe workplaces for their employees and customers as they come back online.

Businesses are eager to have access to testing that will help identify individuals who may be sick with the virus and those who may be immune. Acceleration of testing availability is critically important to restoring public confidence and reopening our economy. By implementing these best practices, businesses are still subject to the restrictions of current or future executive orders.

**The following suggested guidelines can be replicated as general best practices, applicable to most workplaces. [Download the PDF here.](#)**

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