

# Safe Start Manufacturing Guidance

June 8, 2020

## No-Cost Preventative and Preparedness Guidance

Washington has been staying home and saving lives since the start of our statewide stay-at-home order issued on March 23, 2020. These efforts have allowed the state to move forward on the [Safe Start](#) roadmap issued by the Governor's office.

### Funds Available to Washington Manufacturers

Impact Washington has begun providing no-cost Preventative and Preparedness Assessments to help manufacturers return to work. Using funds authorized by the CARES Act signed by the President in April, NIST issued awards to Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) centers for COVID-19-related projects. Our Assessment follows COVID-19 Response Operational Guidelines for Manufacturing Facilities posted to the Governor's website on May 12, 2020 and is available to Washington based manufactures and producers of food, fiber, crops, livestock, and livestock products.

### Safe Start General Safety & Healthy Requirements

All manufacturing establishments have a general obligation to keep a safe and healthy facility in accordance with state and federal law, and comply with the following COVID-19 work site-specific safety practices, as outlined in Governor Jay Inslee's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" Proclamation 20-25, and by following the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries [General Requirements and Prevention Ideas for Workplaces](#) and the [Washington State Department of Health Workplace and Employer Resources & Recommendations](#). Employers must specifically ensure operations follow the main L&I COVID-19 requirements to protect workers combined with Governor Inslee's Safety and Health Requirements for manufacturers

Your COVID-19 Infectious Disease Exposure and Recovery Manual must include and describe how your business has implemented the requirements and is in compliance with the guidelines and standards.

Washington State Department of Labor and industries sent a [bulletin on May 26, 2020](#), stated that businesses ignoring pandemic orders could be cited and fined. Specifically, L&I will perform in-person spot checks on some of the firms to make sure they are following through and complying with the Safe Start requirements.

## Assessment Overview

The Assessment includes a full-day virtual site visit with an Impact Washington consultant followed by an implementation plan and debrief to ensure a smooth restart of each facility as soon as possible. The completed Assessment summarizes, and documents individual risk levels found within each facility and provides recommendations for specific workplace controls. We review approximately 15 areas against 75+ requirements and controls.

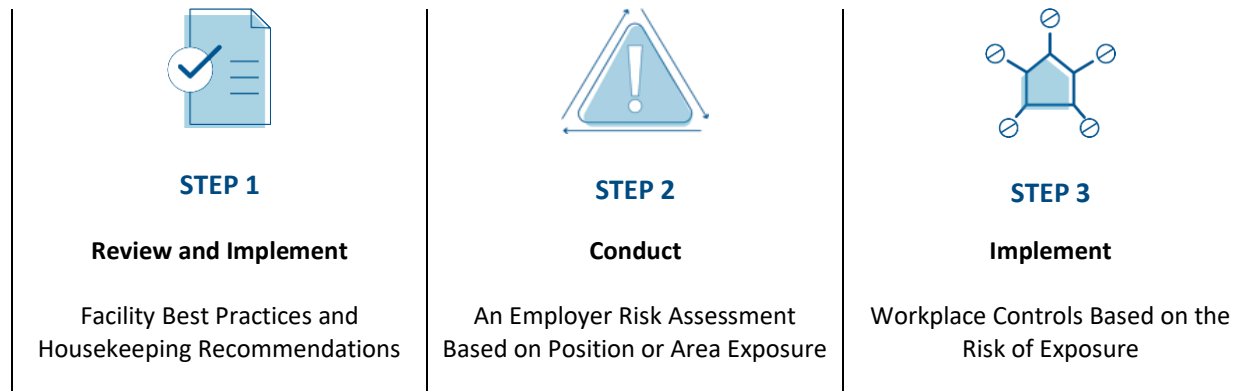
## Why Workplace Measures are Important

To manage COVID-19 risks for employees, it is critical for manufacturing facilities to review their policies and procedures relative to current knowledge of the risks. The following guidance is based on our current understanding of the virus and designed to help companies review and amend their policies.

Ultimately, each facility will need to implement policies tailored to their specific facilities and any risks relevant to their employees or those that they may encounter during work time.

Additionally, employers should conduct a Risk Assessment of their facilities to determine whether Engineering Controls, Administrative Controls, or Personal Protective measures are recommended based on the work areas within their facility or each employee's risk of exposure due to the nature of their job functions.

The high-level steps for site compliance with the workplace controls recommended herein are:



## What our Clients Say...

*"Thanks for the productive assessment meetings over the past two days. I felt the tools Impact Washington provided made pulling together an effective Return to Work Plan very straight forward. By giving the checklist in advance, we were able to improve the plan we had started and allowed us to discuss and resolve some issues before our walkthrough. That was very helpful. I wasn't sure the virtual tour would be effective, but I think it was a good use of everyone's time and worked very well. The suggestions and best practices you shared made us reconsider some of the points we were not sure of and add some items we had not considered. Working on this with you made us more confident that when we are allowed to bring our employees back to work, we will have created a safe work environment."*

- Harry, VP of Human Resources, Cascade Designs, Inc.

## Get Your Facility on Impact Washington's Schedule Today

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