

Agencies or individuals providing public transportation, including rideshares and taxis, can take measures to protect themselves, their passengers, and employees, from COVID-19. This document provides guidance to mitigate transmission of COVID-19 through the use of communication and education, social distancing, and personal and environmental cleaning practices.

- Employees who are sick should notify their supervisor and stay home. Those who exhibit fever, dry cough, shortness of breath should follow the [directions for self-isolation](#) and seek medical attention if needed.
- Employees who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 should not be expected to report to work. They should stay home, self-quarantine and monitor themselves for symptoms.
- Employers should consider screening employees, including taking their temperatures, when they report to work. Ask them if they have a fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, or have been in close contact with anyone exhibiting these symptoms. If they answer “yes” to any of these screening questions send them home and advise them to follow the directions for either self-quarantine or self-isolation. Be sure to maintain employee confidentiality at all times.
  - An employee health screening form is available at [covid19.colorado.gov/schools-workplaces-community](https://covid19.colorado.gov/schools-workplaces-community)
- Employees who are sick or symptomatic may be eligible to return to work if they meet the following criteria\*:
  - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
  - At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
  - Or have been cleared by a doctor to return to work.
  - \*This information is general guidance, and may differ based on each individual’s situation.

### Communication and education for employees and drivers

- Employees should adhere to social distancing requirements by staying 6 feet away from other employees.
- Employees can [take steps to protect themselves](#) at work and at home. Older people and people with serious chronic medical conditions are at [higher risk for complications](#).
- Post signs where employees can see them, reminding them to avoid touching their eyes, noses and mouths and to practice proper sneezing and cough etiquette: [[English](#), [Spanish](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Vietnamese](#), [Somali](#)].
- Have ample supplies of hand sanitizer on hand for your employees and passengers.

- Avoid handling money, if possible. Consider wearing disposable gloves if you must collect money from passengers. Use one pair of gloves per customer and throw them away after each use.
- Prioritize providing appropriate gloves, masks, face shields and other personal protective equipment to employees to the extent possible. Using cloth face coverings will preserve medical masks for health care workers and first responders.

### Communication and education for passengers

- Communicate to the public they should avoid public transit if they are sick.
- Public transportation should be limited to essential trips only, such as to work for critical workers and to meet essential personal needs.
- Post signs inside busses or in the back seat of rideshares and taxis, reminding passengers to avoid touching their eyes, noses and mouths and to practice proper sneezing and cough etiquette: [[English](#), [Spanish](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Vietnamese](#), [Somali](#)].

### Ensure social distancing

- Post signs reminding passengers that social distancing requirements apply to public transport.
- Limit vehicle capacity to ensure passengers maintain at least 6 feet of spacing from other passengers, or approximately 20% of vehicle capacity. Consider cordoning off seats or portions of vehicles, as well as skipping stops if vehicles are already at capacity, in order to maintain social distancing.
- Create physical distance between passengers and drivers
  - Do not seat passengers in the first one or two rows of seats immediately behind or adjacent to the driver's seat to maintain 6 feet of separation. Tape off those seats.
  - Passengers can board through the rear door, if there is a rear door, to avoid encroaching on the 6-foot buffer with the driver that might occur with front-door boarding.
  - If the bus has only one front door, or fares must be put into a farebox, such that back door boarding is not possible, the driver may stand outside the bus while boarding is occurring. This will give either 6-foot separation, or will at least place the driver in an open-air setting, not confined space, during boarding.
- Transit agencies may consider modifications to service, prioritizing routes that serve medical facilities, employment centers that are critical to the supply chain, access to core needs (e.g. grocery stores, food banks, and schools or other places where meals are provided) and lifeline services for the most vulnerable populations.
- If you work for a rideshare company or are a taxi driver, ask passengers to sit in the back to create physical distance.

### Regular cleaning of busses and other vehicles, including rideshares and taxis

For guidance regarding how to routinely clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces, including vehicles, refer to [CDPHE's Environmental Cleaning Guidance for COVID-19](#).

Based on what is currently known about the virus, spread from person-to-person happens most frequently among close contacts (within about 6 feet). This type of transmission occurs via respiratory droplets. Transmission of COVID-19 to persons from surfaces contaminated with the virus has not been documented. Current evidence suggests that COVID-19 may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials. Cleaning of visibly dirty and high touch surfaces followed by disinfection is a best

practice measure for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses in households and community settings.

- **Cleaning:** refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection. Cleaning is typically performed using soap, detergents, cleansers and water.
- **Disinfecting:** refers to using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface *after* cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection. Disinfecting is typically performed using approved commercial or household disinfecting solutions.

The following guidance is recommended for proper cleaning and disinfecting of vehicles:

1. Clean heavily soiled or dirty vehicle and equipment surfaces before and after operation and before disinfecting; wearing chemical gloves (i.e., nitrile gloves) is highly recommended.
2. Vehicles used for rideshares and taxis should be cleaned and disinfected as often as possible - especially after dropping off passengers who appear to be sick.
3. Follow cleaning activities with an [approved disinfectant](#); wearing chemical gloves (i.e., nitrile gloves) is highly recommended.
4. All commonly touched surfaces used to access and control the vehicle should be cleaned and disinfected; common surfaces will include:
  - a. Door handles and grab bars
  - b. Interior door handle and surrounding surfaces
  - c. Fare box
  - d. Instrument panel, gear shift and control knobs and devices, don't forget any keys, keyfobs or fuel cards
  - e. All other devices used during your shift
  - f. Steering wheel, center console, and radio microphone
  - g. Seat belt and buckle
  - h. Wash hands after cleaning for a minimum of 20 seconds
5. Repeat cleaning and disinfecting practices at end of shift or sooner if driver or passengers exhibit COVID-19 symptoms.