

## **Temperature Screening Guidelines**

Some employers, including a number in the meat industry have implemented temperature screenings of employees for COVID-19 exposure. Employers deciding to implement such screening must do so with caution.

Below are some suggested steps that should be considered if such screening is implemented:

1. Employers should notify employees of temperature screenings in advance.
2. Persons performing the screening should wear the appropriate protective equipment.
3. The temperature screening area should be located where incoming traffic can be controlled and allow for employees to appropriately social distance from one another.
4. The temperature screening process should have the following two steps:

### **Step 1 – Verbal Screening**

Employer should start with a verbal screening of employees/visitors for symptoms of COVID-19 and contact with COVID-19 cases. They should ask:

- a. In the past 24 hours, have you had any of the following symptoms?
  - i. Fever, felt feverish, or had chills?
  - ii. Cough?
  - iii. Difficulty breathing
- b. In the past 14 days have you had contact with a person diagnosed with or otherwise tested positive for COVID-19?

If the answer to all questions is no, the employee should be allowed to enter to work. If the answer is yes to any of the questions, or the person refuses to answer, go on to step 2.

### **Step 2 – Check Temperature**

Follow the protocol below:

- a. Thoroughly wash hands
- b. Use appropriate PPE
- c. Check individual's temperature
- d. Thoroughly wash hands again
- e. Remove PPE
- f. Thoroughly wash hands again

If the temperature is below 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, the employee may be permitted to work. If the person's temperature is 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, he/she should not be permitted to enter and should be encouraged to self-isolate and contact their doctor. Employers should monitor the employees' condition.

Non-contact thermometers should be used if available. Any thermometers used must be thoroughly disinfected between screening tests. Retain the temperature information for each employee in a confidential medical file.