
Resuming Construction at the University of Michigan

1 message

Marina Roelofs <mroelofs@umich.edu>

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To: ContractorsMarch2020 <contractorsmarch2020@umich.edu>

To our Valued Contractors:

The safety of the University of Michigan community remains the #1 priority of AEC. You are part of our community and we care about all the people working on our construction projects.


On May 1st, the Governor issued [Executive Order 2020-70](#) permitting construction work to resume on May 7th. As you begin on-site construction work, your compliance with State requirements (summary attached) will be essential in addressing COVID-19. As you have already been informed by your U-M project manager, prior to start of work on University of Michigan property, you are to submit your updated safety plan indicating your method of compliance with the Executive Order. These requirements are very important and are in place to help protect and maintain the safety for your employees, sub-contractors, consultants, all visitors and U-M faculty, students, and staff.

When working in an existing building, contractors must minimize the use of interior spaces that are outside of the designated construction zones. Plans will be required to ensure minimized use of public spaces for access to the construction area, toileting, deliveries of materials, etc. In the event your employees need to go into a U-M enclosed space outside of the construction zone, they must wear masks at all times ([U-M face covering usage](#)). Additionally, when working in existing buildings, contractors are to follow building entry protocols put in place by the University.

For updated information regarding COVID-19 resources, please refer to the [State of Michigan Corona Virus Update](#) and information specific to the University of Michigan can be found at [U-M's response to COVID-19](#).

We would like to thank you again for your cooperation and understanding during this challenge. You are a critical part of our success, and we rely on your continued commitment to safety and our community. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Marina Roelofs, Executive Director
U-M Architecture, Engineering and Construction

 [Executive Order 2020-70 Construction.pdf](#)

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed an executive order on May 1, 2020, making residential and commercial construction among the first sectors of the economy to reopen as the state gradually lifts its stay-at-home orders. The order allows workers in the construction industry, including workers in the building trades (plumbers, electricians, HVAC technicians, and similar workers) to resume activities effective at 12:01 a.m. on May 7, 2020, provided the resumed activities comply with enhanced social-distancing rules and other mitigation measures required by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other applicable state and federal laws. The executive order requires businesses or operations in the construction industry to:

1. Develop a COVID-19 preparedness and response plan, consistent with recommendations in Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, developed by OSHA (available at <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>). Such a plan must be available at company headquarters or the worksite.
2. Prohibit gatherings of any size in which people cannot maintain six feet of distance from one another.
3. Limit in-person interaction to the maximum extent possible, and barring any such interaction in which people cannot maintain six feet of distance from one another.
4. Provide personal protective equipment such as gloves, goggles, face shields, and face masks as appropriate for the activity being performed.
5. Adopt protocols to limit the sharing of tools and equipment to the maximum extent possible and to ensure frequent and thorough cleaning of tools, equipment, and frequently touched surfaces.
6. Designate a site-specific supervisor to monitor and oversee the implementation of COVID-19 control strategies developed. The supervisor must remain on-site at all times during activities. An on-site worker may be designated to perform the supervisory role.
7. Conduct a daily entry screening protocol for workers and visitors entering the worksite, including a questionnaire covering symptoms and exposure to people with possible COVID-19, together with, if possible, a temperature screening.
8. Create dedicated entry point(s) at every worksite, if possible, for daily screening as provided in item 7 above, or in the alternative issue stickers or other indicators to workers to show that they received a screening before entering the worksite that day.
9. Require face shields or masks to be worn when workers cannot consistently maintain six feet of separation from other workers.
10. Provide instructions for the distribution of personal protective equipment and designate on-site locations for soiled masks.
11. Encourage or require the use of work gloves, as appropriate, to prevent skin contact with contaminated surfaces.
12. Identify choke points and high-risk areas where workers must stand near one another (such as hallways, hoists and elevators, break areas, water stations, and buses) and control their access and use (including through physical barriers) so that social distancing is maintained.
13. Ensure there are sufficient hand-washing or hand-sanitizing stations at the worksite to enable easy access by workers.
14. Notify contractors (if a subcontractor) or owners (if a contractor) of any confirmed COVID-19 cases among workers at the worksite.
15. Restrict unnecessary movement between project sites.
16. Create protocols for minimizing personal contact upon delivery of materials to the worksite.