

# 7 Ways to Maintain Workplace Safety Despite the Delta Variant

The coronavirus Delta variant has caused an increase in active coronavirus cases nationwide. Many employers wonder how the Delta strain will impact their return-to-work plans or their ability to keep employees, clients and vendors safe.

## The Delta Variant in the United States

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

The **Delta variant** is estimated to be **twice as infectious** as other variants of COVID-19.



People who are not vaccinated against COVID-19 are significantly more at risk of contracting the Delta variant.

**Unvaccinated individuals** are also more at risk of **severe symptoms,** hospitalization or death if they catch the Delta variant.

## Maintaining Workplace Precautions Amid the Delta Variant

To safely reopen despite the spread of the Delta variant, businesses are encouraged to:

- | **Review local case numbers and transmission rates** when determining whether to reopen.
- | **Encourage vaccination** and review workplace vaccination plans for on-site employees.
- | **Reestablish or reinforce workplace preventive measures.** For example, continue to observe social distancing requirements and adjust the office layout to encourage this practice.
- | **Continue to require masks in your workplace.** Remember that state and local mask ordinances continue to evolve.
- | **Review HVAC systems** and focus on improving workspace ventilation.
- | **Evaluate** ongoing coronavirus testing strategies.
- | **Keep employees up to date** about the status of your reopening and the evolution of different safety practices.

Even though the spread of the Delta variant remains a concern for employers, there are many steps employers can take to reduce the risk of transmission among their workforce and the public.

Contact Evolution of Benefits for additional pandemic guidance and resources.