

Federal COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Extended to May 11, 2023

The Federal COVID-19 Emergency Declaration (PHE) is set to expire on May 11, 2023. According to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), addressing COVID-19 remains a significant public health priority and over the next several months, so be prepared for evolving standards to improve staff and patient safety.

There are 22 OSHA-approved state plans that must be at least as effective as the federal regulations, but in many cases are more stringent. California recently approved a [COVID-19 Non-Emergency Plan](#) and employers are now required to update their policies and exposure control plan, unless they are covered by the [Aerosol Transmissible Diseases standard](#).

Many healthcare organizations have discontinued OSHA-required fit-testing during the pandemic. On January 11, 2022, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) launched a [contest to improve fit-testing](#). Hopefully the value of collaboration will ultimately be more effective than enforcement.

Although the PHE is ending, it is easy to get confused by ongoing news of [COVID-19 variants](#), influenza, and emerging diseases. It's important to take the time and review policies and safety plans so your organization is trained and prepared to stay safe and compliant.

Download:

[California COVID-19 Model Program](#)

[Health and Human Services \(HHS\) COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Transition Roadmap](#)