

10 Tips for Businesses to Keep Healthy

1. Develop Policies that encourage ill workers to stay home without fear of any reprisals.
2. Develop other flexible policies to allow workers to telecommute (if feasible) and create other leave policies that allow workers to stay home to care for sick family members or care for children if schools close.
3. Provide resources and a work environment that promotes personal hygiene, including proper coughing/sneezing etiquette and liberal washing of hands.
4. Provide education and training materials in an easy to understand and appropriate language and literacy level for all employees.
5. Instruct employees who are well but have an ill family member at home with the flu that they can to go work as usual.
6. Encourage workers to obtain a season influenza vaccine.
7. Encourage employees to get the 2009 H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available if they are in a priority group (children, elderly, immune-compromised, etc.).
8. Provide workers with up-to-date information on influenza risk factors.
9. Plan to implement practices to minimize face-to-face contact between workers if advised by the local health department.
10. If an employee becomes sick at work, place them in a separate room or area until they can go home, away from other workers.