



OSHA Issues COVID-19 Guidance For Gig Economy Companies

Insights

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The nation's foremost workplace safety agency has issued industry-specific guidance for a number of businesses in the past few months, and late last week it finally released a document designed to help gig economy companies navigate the nation's reopening. OSHA's "[COVID-19 Guidance for Rideshare, Taxi, and Car Service Workers](#)" is the first formal piece of guidance to help steer this large segment of workers toward best safety practices, and could also be used as a good starting point for other similar gig economy businesses.

The document advises those in the "car service" industry – including rideshare businesses, delivery work, and similar businesses – to heed the following tips:

- Encourage drivers to stay home if they are sick.
- Ensure vehicle door handles and inside surfaces are routinely cleaned and disinfected with Environmental Protection Agency-approved cleaning chemicals from List N or that have label claims against the coronavirus.
- Advise drivers to lower vehicle windows to increase airflow.
- Allow drivers to wear masks over their nose and mouth to prevent spread of the virus, and ask customers to do the same.
- Provide alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol for both drivers and customers.
- Provide drivers with disposable towels and Environmental Protection Agency-approved cleaning chemicals from List N or that have label claims against the coronavirus for disinfecting surfaces.
- Provide drivers and customers with tissues and trash receptacles.
- Limit the number of passengers drivers can transport at a single time, and install plexiglass partitions between driver and passenger compartments where possible.
- Encourage drivers to report any safety and health concerns.

This list closely follows [many of the preventive steps](#) that companies were already taking in their effort to adopt best practices intended to provide a safe environment for workers and customers alike. Other steps include using in-app technology to ensure drivers are using company-required facemasks and distributing sanitizer and facemasks to drivers.

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Richard R. Meneghello
Chief Content Officer
503.205.8044
[Email](#)