

Food Establishment Employee Illness & Symptom Action Guidance

Symptoms	Action Needed by Person in Charge	Employee can return to work when
Vomiting	EXCLUDE from food establishment	Symptom-free for at least 24 hours*
Diarrhea	EXCLUDE from food establishment	Symptom-free for at least 24 hours*
Jaundice (skin or eye yellowing)	EXCLUDE from food establishment <i>and</i> Notify Health Department & Regulatory Authority	Only after approval from the Local Health Officer <i>and</i> Regulatory Authority
Sore Throat with Fever	RESTRICT from working with open food or clean dishes	Symptom-free (or with medical documentation)
Infected Wound or Pus-filled Boil	RESTRICT from working with open food or clean utensils when wound is red or oozing	After the wound or pus-filled boil is healed or covered, to include a glove if the wound is on the hand or wrist
Sneezing, coughing, running nose	RESTRICT from working with open food or clean dishes	After symptoms have resolved
Diagnosed Illness: Norovirus, <i>Shigella</i>, <i>Salmonella</i>, <i>E. coli</i> (STEC such as O157, O26, O145) or Hepatitis A		
Diagnosed Illness	EXCLUDE from food establishment <i>and</i> Notify Health Department & Regulatory Authority	Only after approval from the Local Health Officer
Customer Complaints: Foodborne Illness or Injury		
Any reports of foodborne illness or injury from customers	Notify Regulatory Authority	All complaints of potential foodborne illness or injury must be reported and any suspect food maintained
ANY FOOD CONTAMINATED BY ILL WORKERS MUST BE DISCARDED.		
Exclude means to prevent a person from working as an employee in a food establishment or entering a food establishment as an employee Restrict means to limit the activities of a food employee so that there is no risk of transmitting a disease that is transmissible through food and the food employee does not work with exposed food, clean equipment/utensils/linens, or unwrapped single use articles.		
*Medical documentation showing workers' symptoms of illness are not transmissible through food may work without special restriction.		
WAC 246-215 References: 02205, 02215, 02220, 02225, 02235, 02245, 02250, 02405, 03700, 08520		