

# Information on Covid-19

Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### — In the context of the full resumption of economic activities in France, do employers need to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to employees going to work in order to ensure their protection in the workplace?

Since September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, to avoid another Covid-19 outbreak, face masks are mandatory and systematic in collective enclosed spaces within companies. Only employees working in individual office spaces are exempted from wearing a face mask.

Employers are mandated to supply and provide protective solutions adapted to the risks faced by their employees: therefore, face masks must be paid for and supplied to all employees present on site.

In addition, employers may decide to provide aprons or protective visors to some employees in view of the specific nature of the activity carried out.

Employers must ensure that arrangements are made for constant supply and disposal (for single-use equipment) or maintenance and cleaning (for reusable equipment).

In accordance with the national Protocol to ensure the health and safety of employees in companies, updated on August 31, 2020 by the Ministry of Labor and intended for all companies, it is emphasized that priority must be given by the employer to collective protection measures (collective protection solutions of a technical nature - physical screens, spacing of workstations...- or organizational - staggered working hours, duplication of teams etc.).

According to the virus circulation level in the company's implementation department ("red", "orange", or "green" area), adaptations to the general obligation to wear a mask may be decided with the staff or their representatives, in order to meet the specificities of certain sectors or activities.

For more information, please visit:

[https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/protocole-national-sante-securite-en-entreprise\\_31\\_aout\\_2020.pdf](https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/protocole-national-sante-securite-en-entreprise_31_aout_2020.pdf)