

March 6, 2019

**Union** ★  
**Update**

**OPEIU**  
Local



Hello OPEIU LOCAL 8 Members:

As more cases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) are discovered and reported in Washington, your Union is working to determine whether your employer has an emergency response plan in place and whether they have a policy to address infectious diseases and/or pandemics.

If your employer does not have a specific policy or has a policy but one that fails to address key points, we are issuing "demands to bargain" over the issue. During this time, it is the Union's position that employers should greatly increase the ability for employees to telecommute. In addition, the Union will fight for employees to receive paid administrative leave if an employer temporarily closes an office or sends you home because of exposure. We don't want employees burning through accrued sick leave/ vacation/PTO or take leave without pay because of safety mishaps on the job.

Remember, if you are exposed at work and there is no policy in place dealing with the current situation, you may apply for Workers Comp through Washington State. If you are exposed outside of work, you should utilize sick leave/vacation/paid time off, and possibly including the Washington Paid Family and Medical Leave.

If you have additional questions or concerns specific to your workplace, please contact your Union Representative. You may also call us 1-800-600-2433 or 206-441-8880.

In Solidarity,  
Suzanne Mode  
Business Manager  
OPEIU LOCAL 8  
Pronouns: She /Her  
[www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org)

Visit our website



**OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8**

OPEIU Local 8 | 800-600-2433 | Fax 206-441-0207 | [opeiu8@opeiu8.org](mailto:opeiu8@opeiu8.org) | [www.opeiu8.org](http://www.opeiu8.org)

STAY CONNECTED