This year, fighting flu is more important than ever.

As the coronavirus pandemic collides with flu season, employers across the country are doing their part to keep our economy open by promoting flu vaccines in their workplaces.

If employees get sick, it will be difficult to tell whether they have COVID-19 or the flu, which could lead to long employee absences or temporary business closures. Contracting both illnesses at the same time could result in severe complications.

Encouraging employees to get the flu vaccine is one of the best ways to keep your doors open and your employees, customers, and community safe. Act now to protect your workplace before it’s too late.

Ways to Protect Your Workplace from Flu:

Note: The following list is based on recommendations from organizations including Society for Human Resource Management, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Atlantic Health Partners.

- Encourage all employees to wear masks, wash their hands, and get a flu shot.

- Share this flu vaccine finder with employees to help them find out where they can get vaccinated. Allow employees to take time on-the-clock to get their flu vaccination, if possible.

- Partner with nearby pharmacies to set up an onsite flu vaccine clinic, or to provide vaccine vouchers or coupons to employees.

- Use incentives to increase flu vaccination participation, like holding a contest for the department with the highest percentage of vaccinated employees.

- Increase employee awareness by posting visual aids and sharing relevant information about the importance of flu vaccination.

To access free, downloadable posters, infographics, and materials, visit: www.cdc.gov/flu/resource-center/

1. Many pharmacies, including CVS, Rite Aid, and Walgreens, offer workplace immunization services.