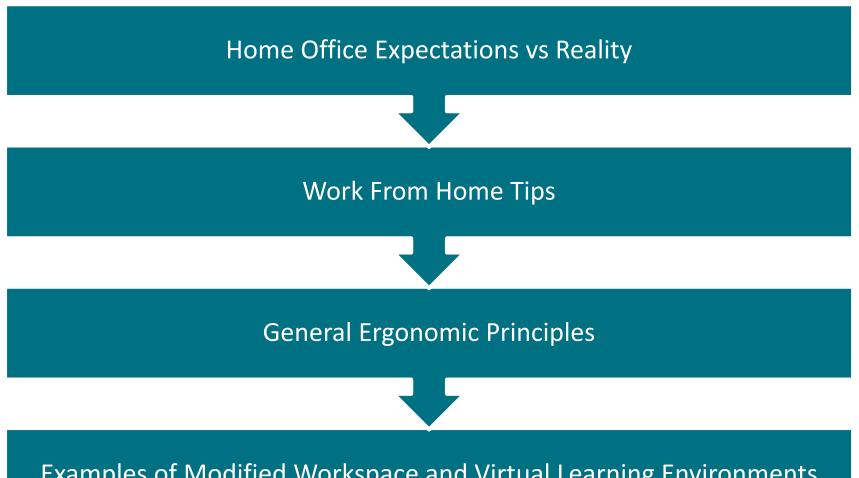




**Everyday Ergonomics for Remote Workers and Virtual Learners** 

Karen Mestas Harris, MOTR/L, CEAS II

### **Agenda**



**Examples of Modified Workspace and Virtual Learning Environments** 

### WFH (Work from Home): A Global Shift

56% of total U.S. workforce (75 million workers) are now working from home.

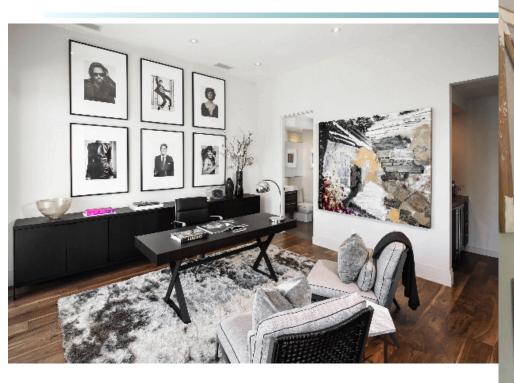
50-75% will continue to work from home through 2020.

Many companies looking forward at change in mindset on WFH or hybrid models.



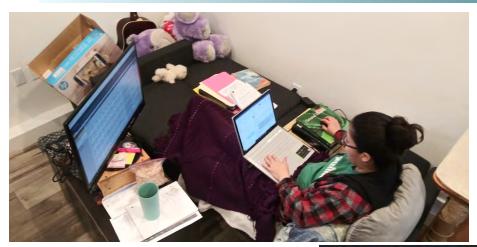
Source: https://globalworkplaceanalytics.com/work-at-home-after-covid-19-our-forecast

## **Home Office Expectations**

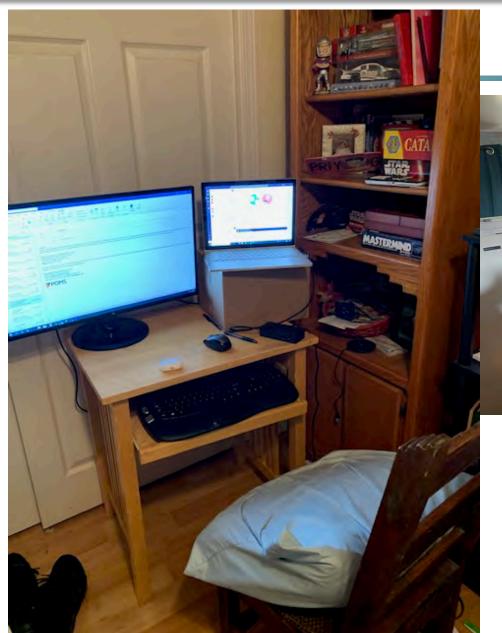




## **Home Office Reality**









## **Home Office Reality**





### **General Work/School From Home Guidelines**



#### **Transition Time**

Morning and end of day routines.

Take a walk outside or to a different room.



## Cut yourself some slack

Self Care Support System



#### **Schedules**

Ground Rules
"Office Hours"
Post the schedule

Schedule time for YOU



#### **Ergo Breaks**

Set an alarm for a physical/mental break.

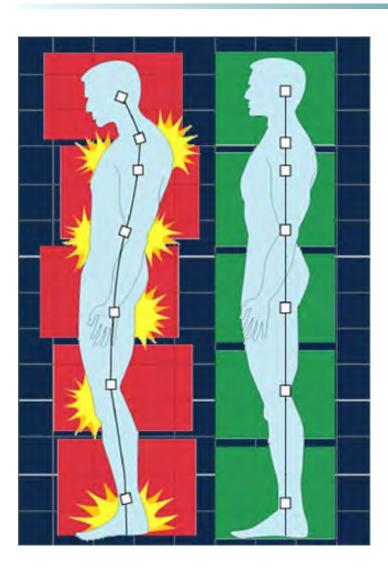
Be Creative



#### **Dedicated Space**

Organize Shut it off

### **General Ergonomic Principles**



#### **Keep Neutral Postures**

- Core 1<sup>st</sup>!
- Feet on Floor or supported
- Body aligned
- Work in front of you-no side twisting
- Back Supported
- Natural Curve of the Spine

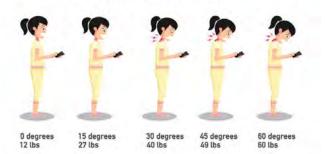
#### Workspace setup for ergonomic success

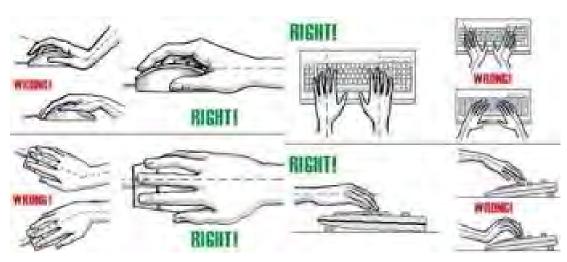
- Does it fit you?
- Can you focus?
- Shift from reactive to proactive ergonomics.
   You don't need all the gadgets!

### **Abnormal Postures Can Lead to Injury**



WEIGHT OF HEAD WHEN LOOKING DOWN AT A CELL PHONE





#### SYMPTOMS OF FORWARD HEAD POSTURE

- · HEADACHES
- · NECK PAIN
- PAIN & TINGLING IN THE ARMS
- NECK & SHOULDER MUSCLE
- · TIGHTNESS
- · FATIGUE

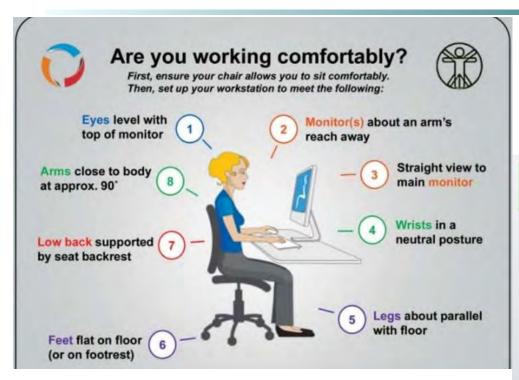


## **General Ergonomic Principles**





### **General Ergonomic Principles/Workstation Setup**



#### CORRECT SITTING POSTURE



### **General Ergonomic Principles**

#### **ERGONOMIC SET UPS:**



#### Standing

- Place the monitor at or just below eye level & keep your line of vision between 0 and 65°.
- Keep your upper arms close to your body & have your elbow bent at a 100° angle.
- Keep your head, neck, torso and legs in line with each other.
- Keep your feet flat on the floor and try to avoid putting all of your weight on one foot.



### Sitting

- Place your monitor an arm's length away from you.
- Adjust your arm rests and chair height so that your elbows are bent at 80-90° and your shoulders aren't raised.
- Adjust your chair height and seat so that your hips and knees are bent 80-90°.
- Make sure you are sitting upright and that you have proper lumbar support.



Twisting at the waist



#### **Workspace**

- Keep everything you use regularly within a close distance.
- The spacebar of your keyboard should be around 15mm away from the edge of your desk.
- Have the alphabetic section of the keyboard in front of you and the numeric section to the side.

### **General Ergonomic Principles**

## What is good posture

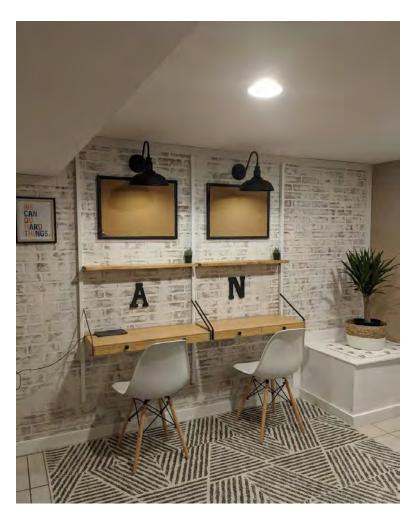
- Children should be encouraged to Sit right and then write
- Knees, hips & ankles at 90 degrees
- knees comfortably under the desks
- Shoulders relaxed
- Arms resting comfortably resting on the desk
- Neck balancing lightly on top of spine and in the middle of the body

### Sit right then write



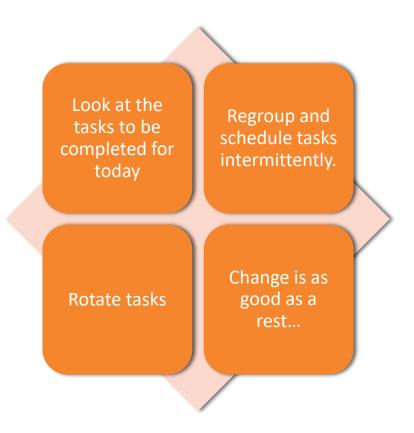
Movement breaks help with concentration. The body and mind do not perform well when kept in a static position for more then 25min.

## **Home Office Expectations / Reality**





### **Job Task Analysis or Organizational Ergonomics**



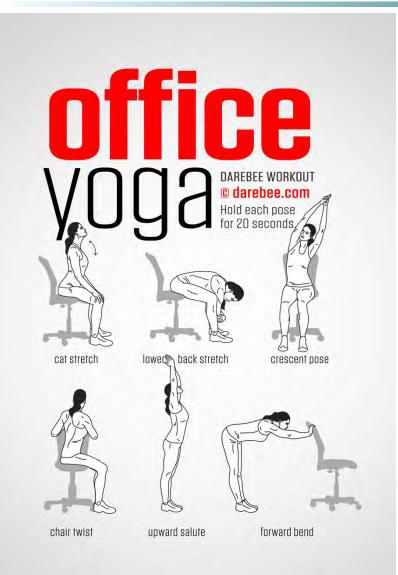
#### • Scenario:

- 75 packets to prepare for a presentation.
- 3 phone meetings
- Review and finalize PowerPoint slides for presentation.
- Email review and process.
- Research alternatives to facemasks for children with sensory issues for report due next week.

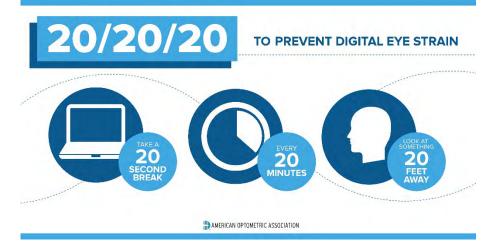
### **Job Task Analysis or Organizational Ergonomics**

715-745	Email Review (sit at computer)
750-820	Setup assembly line for presentation packets and initiate project (stand/move)
830-930	Review PowerPoint Slides (sit at computer)
930-945	Ergo Break/Stretch
945-1015	Zoom Meeting (sitting at computer)
1020-11	Process email (sit/stand)
1115-1145	Phone Meeting (walking)
12-1230	Lunch
1230-115	Research facemasks (sit at computer)
115-2	Finish packets (stand/move)
2-230	Zoom staff mtg (sitting at computer)
245-315	Email and plan for next day

### **Ergo Breaks**







### **General Ergonomic Work/Learn From Home Principles**



**Keep Neutral Postures** 

Core 1<sup>st</sup>!
Work in front of you



Workspace setup for ergonomic success

Proactive Fit to your needs



**Job Task Analysis** 

Rotate Tasks
Limit Repetition
Schedule for Success



**ErgoBreaks** 

Stretches 20/20/20 rule

Leave the work area

Set timers



YOU

Valued

Needed

**Appreciated** 

### Home Hacks and Examples of Home/Virtual Learning

#### HOME WORKSTATION ERGONOMICS

- X No back support
- X Elbows stretched too far
- X No document holder
- X Eye strain



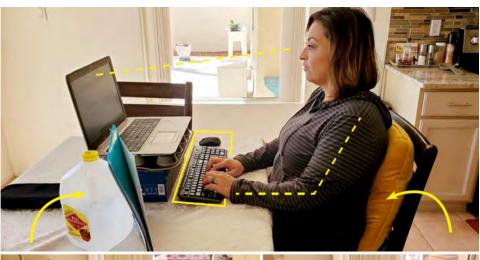


Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers | Office 505-933-6284 | Cell 575-693-3655 | www.pomsassoc.com

#### HOME WORKSTATION ERGONOMICS

- Top of monitor at eye level or just below
- Backrest supporting lower back
- Elbows close to body and angled at 90-120 degrees
- Document holder
- Get creative with everyday household items!

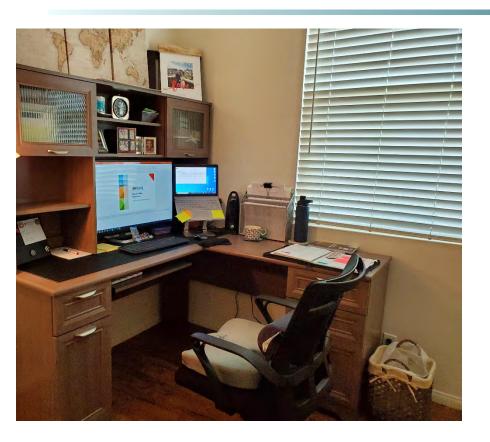


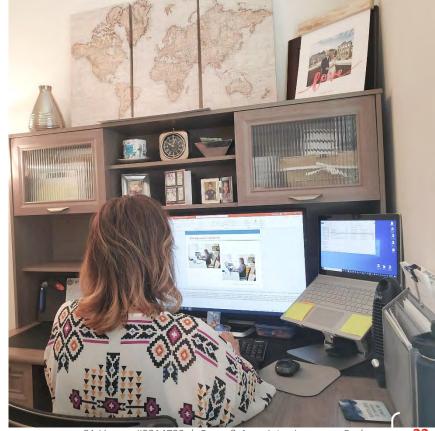




Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers | Office 505-933-6284 | Cell 575-693-3655 | www.pomsassoc.com

## **Workstation Setup**





CA License #0814733 | Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers



Arteck 2.4G Wireless Keyboard Stainless Steel Ultra Slim Keyboard for Computer/Desktop/PC/Laptop/Surface/Smart TV and Windows 10/8 / 7 / Vista/XP Built in Rechargeable Battery

<b>Amazon's Choice</b> for "keyboard slim	192 answered questions
rice: \$28,99 <b>vprime</b>	To any
ew (2) from \$28.99 ✓prime FREE S	hipping
pecifications for this item	
Brand Name	Arteck
Color	Black
Compatible Devices	Computer , PC , Desktop , Laptop , Surface



#### Microsoft Sculpt Ergonomic Wireless Desktop Keyboard and Wireless Mouse L5V-00001

by Microsoft **会会会会会** 2,989 ratings | 345 answered questions Was: \$132.69 Price: \$119.99 Prime FREE Delivery & FREE Returns You Save: \$12.70 (10%) Get \$70 off instantly: Pay \$49.99 \$119.99 upon approval for the Amazon Prime Rewards Visa Card. No annual fee. Available at a lower price from other sellers, potentially without free Prime shipping. Color: With Mouse

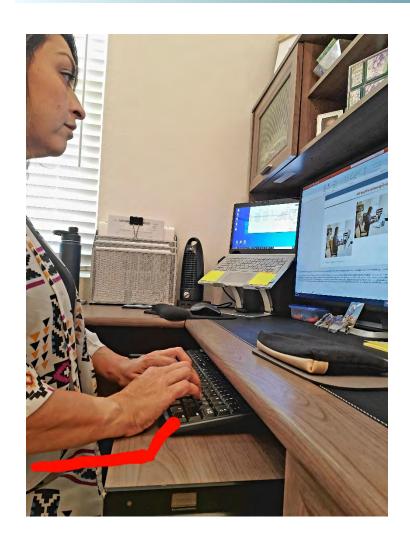


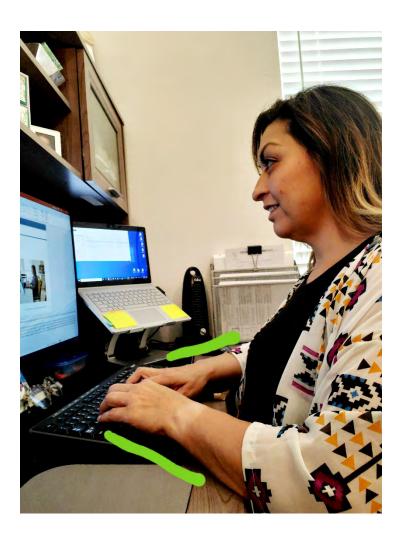


· Cushioned palm rest provides support and promotes a neutral wrist position.

23

## Neutral postures are key!





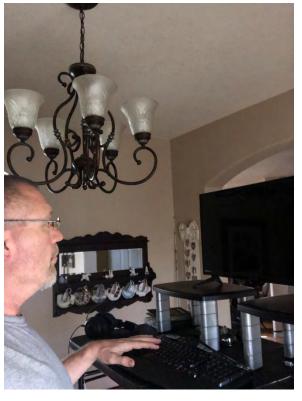
## Working from home....seated before and after



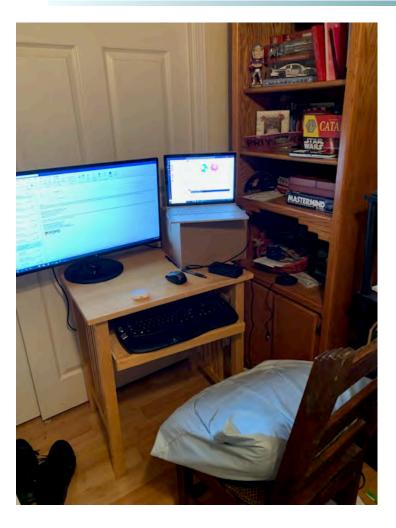
## **Standing modifications with no cost**







### No cost





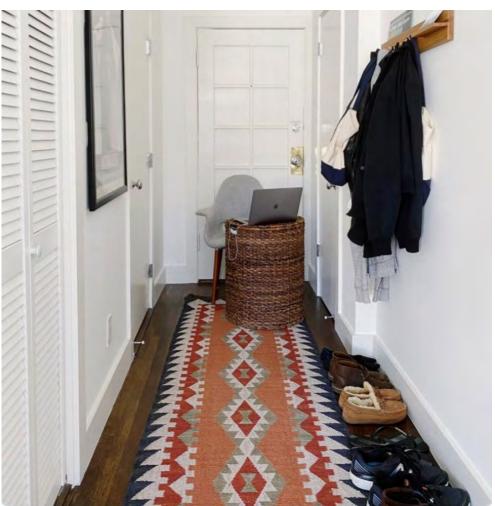
### Purchase: Desk, sit to stand converter.





### More Home Hacks....















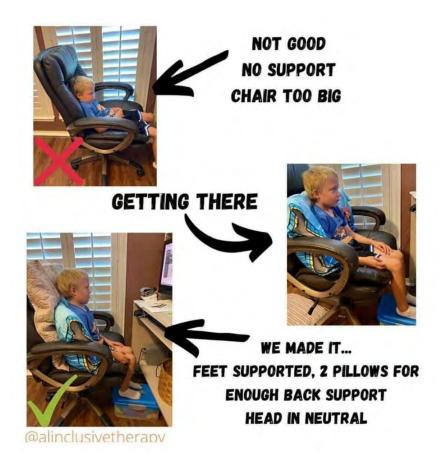
CA License #0814733 | Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers

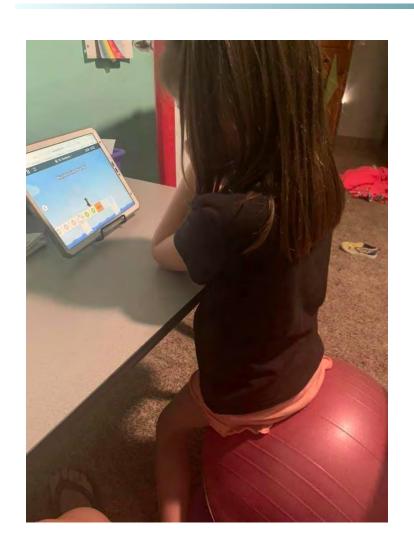
### **Learn from Home-No Cost Hacks**











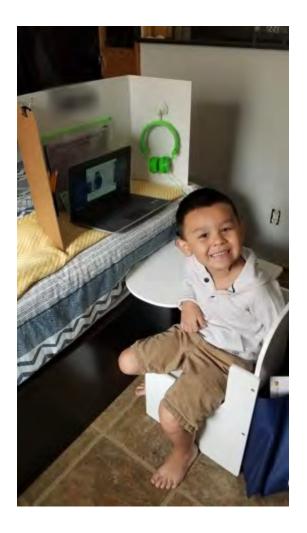
# USE A PEANUT OR THERAPY BALL

GREAT FOR
KIDDOS WHO
LIKE TO MOVE
OR WHEN KIDS
START TO GET
RESTLESS AND
TIRED OF
SITTING STILL



@alinclusivetherapy



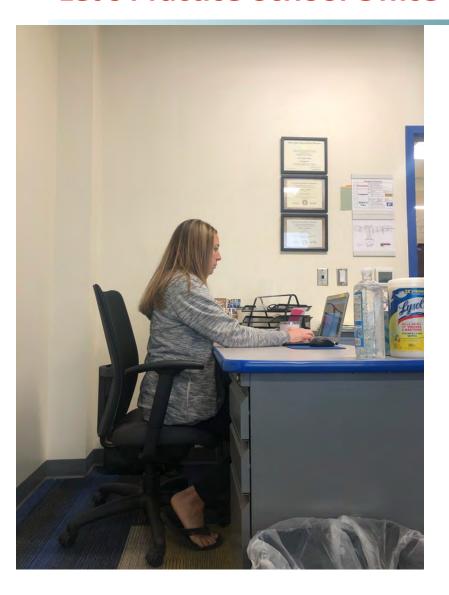


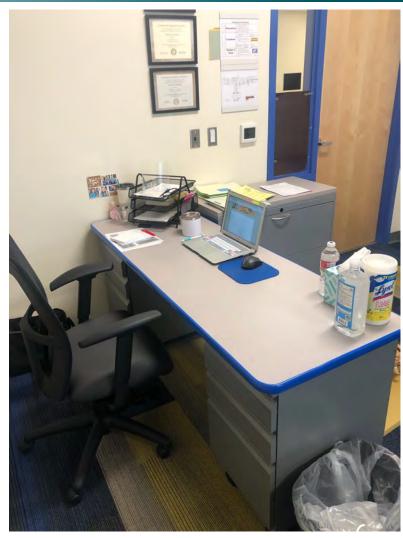
## **Share your ideas**





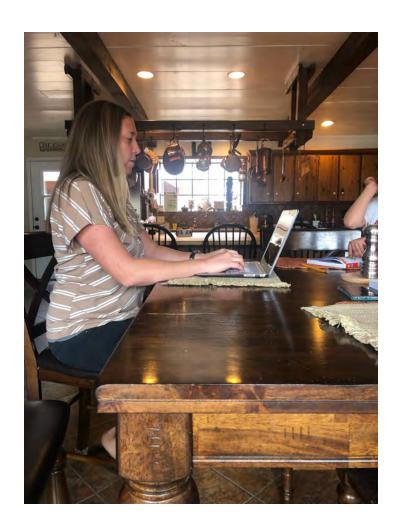
### **Let's Practice-School Office**





CA License #0814733 | Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers

### **Let's Practice-Home Office**



#### **Review**

- Neutral Postures
- Feet and back supported
- Spaces that are functional
- Ergo Breaks
- Schedule your day
- Be creative!



#### **Questions?**



- New Mexico
  - Karen Mestas Harris
  - kmestas@pomsassoc.com
  - 575-693-3655

- California
  - Amy Dolson
  - adolson@pomsassoc.com
  - 818-449-9300

DISCLAIMER: Please be advised that insurance coverage cannot be altered, bound, or cancelled by voicemail, email, facsimile, or online, and insurance coverage is not effective until confirmed in writing by a licensed agent. The materials contained herein do not establish a broker relationship with Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers and is provided for informational purposes only.

A representative of Poms & Associates Insurance Brokers can provide you with a personalized assessment. Please contact us at 818-449-9317.





**Everyday Ergonomics for Remote Workers and Virtual Learners** 

Karen Mestas Harris, MOTR/L, CEAS II