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Services

Welcome ICF/IID Providers!

**COVID-19 Updates and Q&A with LTC
Regulation and DSHS**

June 8, 2020

For more information:

Web: <https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-provider-information>

Email: PolicyRulesTraining@hhsc.state.tx.us

Phone: 512-438-3161

COVID-19 Updates

Panelist

Cecilia Cavuto, MSML
NF, ICF & LSC Policy and Rule Manager
Policy, Rules and Training
Long-term Care Regulation

- Introductions
- Updates



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Gov Delivery

Reminder to [sign up for Gov Delivery](#) notifications and read the notifications we send

This is how we notify providers when new information is published



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Reminder: PPE Infection Control Basics Webinar

The webinar emphasizes how to prevent or minimize the spread of infectious disease by using PPE. During this webinar you will:

- Review standard and transmission-based precautions
- Learn proper hand hygiene techniques
- Demonstrate how to utilize PPE
- Discuss the importance of social distancing in an outbreak situation

June 12: 8:30 a.m.

June 26: 8:30 a.m.

[Register for the webinar here.](#)



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Coming soon:

- Version 2.1 of the COVID-19 Response for ICFs/IID – expected to be posted by COB tomorrow
- Training webinars on emergency preparedness with COVID-19 considerations



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New CDC Guidance:

- [Guidance for Group Homes for Individuals with Disabilities](#)
- [Guidance for Direct Service Providers](#)
- [Guidance for Direct Service Providers, Caregivers, Parents, and People with Developmental and Behavioral Disorders](#)



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COVID-19 Updates

Panelist

Department of State Health Services
Representative

- Updates



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COVID-19 Q&A

Panelist

Renee Blanch-Haley, BSN, RN
Director of Survey Operations
Survey Operations
Long-term Care Regulation

- Updates



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COVID-19 Q&A

Panelist

Dana Williamson

Director, Policy Development and Support
Medicaid/CHIP

-
- Updates



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Log Leave in TMHP

The instructions for indicating an individual's leave from an ICF/IID facility are in TMHP's ICF/IID guide starting in the middle of page 52.

http://www.tmhp.com/Training_Materials/LTC%20Workshop%20Materials/LTC_ICF_IID_UserGuide.pdf

If the above link doesn't open, here is the path:

www.tmhp.com > Providers > Provider Education > Training Materials -- then scroll down the center section and click on 'Long-Term Care Online Portal User Guide for ICF/IID Program Providers'



COVID-19 Updates

Panelist

Mary Valente, MPAff, LBSW, SMQT, CMDCP
Policy Development Support Office
1915(b) Waivers Support
ICF/IID Medicaid Policy Specialist
1915(c) Waivers Special Projects



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- Updates

COVID-19 Q&A

Panelist

Catherine Anglin
Sr. Policy Specialist; NF, ICF, LSC
Policy, Rules and Training
Long-term Care Regulatory

- Updates



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Isolation vs. Quarantine

Question:

Are all HHSC surveyors required to participate in these webinars and review the FAQs?

Response:

These webinars are open to everyone, including surveyors, but it is not requirement.

If you have concerns about survey inconsistencies, please fill out the [survey comment card](#). If you have questions about policy, rule or guidance, email PolicyRulesTraining@hhsc.state.tx.us.



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

When will we be able to have visitors?

Response:

We are currently working on plans for allowing visitors again.



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

If a resident has behavioral issues and is in quarantine for an extended time, behaviors might increase. After a home visit, can the resident be released from quarantine if they are tested and the results come back negative for COVID-19?

Response:

Currently the CDC guidance does not allow for testing in lieu of quarantine. The interdisciplinary team would decide if a meeting was necessary and then review the individuals plan and determine how to move forward while maintaining safety protocols for that individual and the rest of the individuals in the home.



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

If a resident is newly admitted to an ICF, do they have to be quarantined for 14 days?

Response:

Yes, per [CDC guidance](#) a resident who is newly admitted should be separated from the other residents for 14 days and monitored for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

If a resident leaves the facility regularly (i.e. for medically necessary appointments), do they have to be quarantined for 14 days each time?

Response:

No, a resident leaving regularly for medical appointments outside the facility does not have to be quarantined each time they return. However, they cannot be cohorted with residents who choose not to go into the community or with those are either COVID-19 positive or COVID-19 negative.

Per [CDC guidance](#), residents, who must regularly leave the facility for medically necessary purposes, should wear a facemask whenever they leave their bedroom, including for procedures outside of the facility. They should also continue to practice social distancing.



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

Does a resident who is being quarantined after returning from a home visit have to stay in their bedroom?

Response:

No, the [CDC guidance](#) only recommends that individuals be restricted to their bedroom if they are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19. Being in quarantine after returning from a home visit does not automatically mean they are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19; rather it means that they had the potential for being exposed to COVID-19 and should be kept away from others while they are under observation.

Continued...



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COVID-19 Q&A

Response continued:

The individual may visit common areas but the ICF will have to determine how to accomplish this safely. Some things to consider:

- Can the individual visit the common areas and still be separate from other individuals who are not under quarantine?
- Can at least 6 feet of distance be maintained between the individual under quarantine and the other individuals?
- Are all individuals wearing a cloth face covering when they are out of their bedrooms?
- Are all individuals practicing hand hygiene, covering coughs and sneezes and properly discarding used tissues?
- Is the facility frequently cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces and equipment?
- Is the facility monitoring for signs and symptoms at least three times a day (each shift)?
- Does the facility have a plan for what to do if the individual starts having signs or symptoms of respiratory illness?



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

Does a resident need to have a negative COVID-19 test result before they can be admitted to an ICF?

Response:

No. At this time, new admissions do not need to be tested for COVID-19.



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Questions?

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Thank you!

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