Welcome ICF/IID Providers!

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

July 27, 2020

For more information:
Email: PolicyRulesTraining@hhsc.state.tx.us
Phone: 512-438-3161
COVID-19 Updates

Panelist

Kirsten Notaro, MA
Policy, Rules and Training
Long-term Care Regulation

• Introductions
• Updates
Reminder

GovDelivery

• GovDelivery is an email and electronic notification system that will notify you anytime information is posted.

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**COVID-19 Response for ICF**
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

- July 31:10:00 a.m.
  Register for the webinar here.
Emergency Preparedness for Long Term Care Facilities Webinars

• July 29: 1:00 p.m.  
  Register for the webinar here.
COVID-19 Updates

Panelist

Department of State Health Services Representative

• Updates
COVID-19 Q&A

Panelist

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

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Panelist

Dana Williamson
Director, Policy Development and Support Medicaid/CHIP

• Updates
Question: Special Leave

Is it okay to apply the “Special Leave” designation to individuals who move temporarily from one ICF location to another ICF location operated by the same provider?
**Answer: Special Leave**

*Special Leave* is an option if the ICF/IID provider is *moving* individuals to another facility that is owned and operated by the *same* provider as outlined in the rule at Texas Administrative Code §9.226(d)(3) and (5).
Special Leave Rule

40 TAC §9.226(d) An individual is on a special leave if:
(1) the individual is absent from the facility one full day or more;
(2) the individual's IPP provides for and describes the expected benefits of the special leave;
(3) during the absence, sufficient direct care staff of the program provider are with the individual to meet the requirements set forth in 42 CFR §483.430(d);
(4) during the absence, the program provider incurs the usual costs associated with providing services to the individual, including but not limited to costs necessary to provide meals, lodging, and staff; and
(5) during the absence, the program provider provides the active treatment specified in the individual's IPP.
Transferring

If the move involves the provider *transferring* individuals to a facility owned by another ICF/IID provider, the assessment and documentation requirements for a transfer would have to occur which our partners in Long Term Care Regulation (LTCR) confirmed.

If the ICF is *transferring* residents to another ICF, a LTCR surveyor would expect to see:

• An evaluation that assures the receiving facility can meet the individual’s needs;
• Documentation that the individual was discharged for good cause;
• A client summary and post-discharge plan; and
• A client assessment within 30 days of admission to the new ICF.
Transfers

There are no exceptions to the transfer requirements which mirror steps required for a discharge and admission to another facility.
Question: Capacity

Can a provider move individuals to a facility without violating licensed capacity because other individuals who would normally live at the facility are on extended leave?
Answer: Capacity

Medicaid/CHIP confirmed with LTCR that entering the leave for individuals who are not in the facility will address concerns with capacity during the timeframe when other individuals are temporarily living in the facility.
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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• Q&A
COVID-19 Updates

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Kirsten Notaro, MA
Policy, Rules and Training
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**Question:**
Are there any specific requirements for med passes for individuals on quarantine following return from an outing?

**Response:**
When possible, residents can participate in medication passes in the privacy of their own room. Alternatively, scheduling can be staggered to allow various residents to use common areas of the facility, such as the medication room, at different times. Staff should wear all PPE as recommended by CDC and for an individual in quarantine, they should wear all PPE as recommended as well.
COVID-19 Q&A

Question:
Are we able to do trial visits for new admissions?

Response:
As per the ICF COVID-19 Response Plan, HHSC still expects facilities to follow the rules and regulations related to admission and discharge, as they would during non-pandemic times. When possible virtual visits should be encouraged.
Questions?

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