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5/4/20

Welcome ICF/IID Providers!

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

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
NF, ICF & LSC Policy and Rule Manager
Policy, Rules and Training
Long-term Care Regulatory

- Introductions
- updates



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COVID-19 Q&A

Discussion Point:

Why do we link to resources rather than putting the information from them into our documents?



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COVID-19 Q&A

Discussion Point:

The Purpose of HHSC Guidance

The [Frequently Asked Questions for ICF/IIDs about COVID-19](#) and the [COVID-19 Response for ICF/IIDs](#) are published to offer providers resources to consult when they are making decisions. They are guidance, recommendations, and best practices LTCR has collected for the convenience of the providers, to assist in decision making related to the health and safety of residents during this unprecedented time. Both documents are updated regularly to provide the most current guidance from reliable sources of information including CMS, the CDC and DSHS.



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COVID-19 Q&A

COVID-19 Response for ICFs/IID



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COVID-19 RESPONSE FOR INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY OR
RELATED CONDITIONS

Abstract

This document provides guidance to Intermediate Care Facilities on Response Actions in the event of a COVID-19 exposure.

Version 1.0 4/17/20

ICF/IID FAQs

Upcoming Updates

- Infographics that can be pulled as quick references
- Updated and new information will be in red font
- <https://hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-icf-iid-faq.pdf>



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COVID-19 Q&A

Resources in Development

- Helping Residents with Intellectual Disabilities and Related Conditions Stop the Spread of COVID-19 in LTC Communities
- Infection control checklist used during surveys
- Updated FAQs



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CDC Mini Webinars

CDC LTC mini webinars are now available. They are published on the Key Strategies to Prepare for COVID-19 in Long-term Care Facilities (LTCFs) [web page](#) at the bottom under a “Webinar Series” section. The new webinars can be a training tool/resource for frontline long-term care staff.

1. Sparkling Surfaces - <https://youtu.be/t7OH8ORr5Iq>
2. Clean Hands - <https://youtu.be/xmYMUly7qiE>
3. Closely Monitor Residents - <https://youtu.be/1ZbT1Njv6xA>
4. Keep COVID-19 Out! <https://youtu.be/7srwrF9MGdw>
5. PPE Lessons - <https://youtu.be/YYTATw9yav4>



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COVID-19 Q&A

OSHA Guidance

OSHA's respiratory protection training videos:

https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/respiratoryprotection/training_videos.html

Topics include:

- Fit testing,
- Medical evaluations,
- Respiratory protection in general industry,
- Respirator types,
- Voluntary use of respirators,
- Respiratory protection in construction,
- Training requirements, respiratory protection for healthcare workers,
- The differences between respirators and surgical masks,
- Donning & doffing,
- Counterfeit respirators, maintenance and care,
- OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard ([1910.134](#)).



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COVID-19 Updates

Panelist

Department of State Health Services
Representative

- Updates



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COVID-19 Q&A

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

- Updates



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COVID-19 Q&A

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Dana Williamson

Director, Policy Development and Support
Medicaid/CHIP

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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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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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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

What impact does GA-18 have on ICFs?

Answer:

The Governor's Executive Order GA-18, issued 04/27, reiterates the following guidance for ICFs:

- Restrict visitors unless to provide critical assistance as determined by (HHSC)
- Follow infection control policies and practices set forth by HHSC, including minimizing the movement of staff between facilities whenever possible



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

Does the Open Texas Plan impact ICFs?

Answer:

Yes – The Governor's [Open Texas](#) plan includes information specific to ICFs, including recommendations to:

- Quantify extent of infection immediately
- Implement comprehensive mitigation plan
- Re-evaluation for current positive facilities
- Isolation of residents with confirmed cases
- Implement enhanced access control



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

Will I be cited if I don't have PPE or if everyone in the facility is not wearing a mask?

Answer:

When a surveyor conducts a survey or investigation, they take a variety of information into consideration – not just a single element. Citations occur as a result of evidence that a provider is not in compliance with one or more federal and/or state rules and regulations, based on evidence gathered. For example, during infection control surveys, surveyors look at many things, including facility policies, training for staff, and actions the facility is taking to protect the health and safety of residents from possible exposure to COVID-19, or to prevent the spread of the virus if there is a confirmed case.



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

Can residents who work in the community return to work at this time?

Answer:

There is nothing that prohibits it. We do recommend that providers take all necessary precautions to ensure the health and safety of all residents when one or more resident returns to work.

To help ensure infection control and the health and safety of individuals, providers should follow recommendations including:

- Implementing infection control practices, including screening of individuals and others entering the residence, that align with CDC, DSHS, and HHSC guidance
- Reinforcing hand hygiene, social distancing, the wearing of cloth face coverings as appropriate, and other practices to limit the transmission of infection



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COVID-19 Q&A

Question:

Can residents return to day hab now?

Answer:

To help an individual to determine whether to receive day habilitation in a setting outside the facility, program providers should explain that [GA-18](#) is a temporary order that requires limiting social gatherings and in-person contact with people not in the same household.

Based on this requirement, individuals should be discouraged from attending day habilitation outside the facility.

If a resident chooses to attend day hab outside the facility, providers should take all precautions necessary to ensure the health and safety of all residents.



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Questions?

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Thank you!

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