



Effective Immediately

Indoor, outdoor and off-site visits must be offered as they were pre-pandemic by residential providers for their residents, including residential programs for persons with Traumatic Brain Injury. Residential providers are required to allow visitation of any type and cannot independently stop visitation unless directed by a Federal, State, or Local Health Authority.

Even with prudent steps being taken to reduce risk of COVID-19 infection, neither the provider nor Division can guarantee that transmission will not occur. All staff, regardless of vaccination status, must continue to wear a well-fitted face mask unless doing so would create a risk to workplace health, safety or job duty as assessed by the employer, and physically distance (as appropriate for the care of residents) when working with staff and residents who are not up-to-date¹ with their COVID-19 vaccinations (including booster).

Providers are permitted to inquire about vaccination status of residents, visitors and staff so long as they follow all privacy requirements and are in compliance with HIPAA protections (e.g., do not ask the status in front of other others) and any other applicable federal or state law. Visitors are not required to provide this information. If vaccination status is unknown it is to be assumed the person is not vaccinated.

Providers of congregate residential services are required to comply with [Executive Order 283](#) that requires staff to be up-to-date with their COVID-19 vaccinations (including booster) or, if granted an exemption by their employer for a qualifying medical disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 or sincerely held religious belief pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, submit to testing for COVID-19 once or twice a week.

Background Rationale and Evidence for Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People²
All COVID-19 vaccines currently approved or authorized in the United States are effective against COVID-19, including against severe disease, hospitalization, and death. Available evidence suggests the currently approved or authorized COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective against hospitalization and death for a variety of strains.

The risk of COVID-19 infection in fully vaccinated people cannot be completely eliminated as long as there is continued community transmission of the virus. Early data suggest infections in fully vaccinated persons are more commonly observed with the Delta variant than with other COVID-19 variants. However, data show fully vaccinated persons are less likely than unvaccinated persons to acquire COVID-19, and infections with the Delta variant in fully vaccinated persons are associated with less severe clinical outcomes. Infections with the Delta variant in vaccinated persons potentially have reduced transmissibility than infections in unvaccinated persons, although additional studies are needed.

CDC scientists are working with partners to gather data and virus samples that can be studied to answer important questions about the Omicron variant³. CDC will provide updates as soon as possible.

Visitation

Please see [Residential and Day Program Screening Policy](#) for detailed information on visits in and out of the home and at day programs, as well as other important information.

¹ Up-to-date with recommended vaccines means having received all primary doses and booster shots recommended for the individual. See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html> for more information.

² https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/fully-vaccinated-people.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fmore%2Ffully-vaccinated-people.html

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/omicron-variant.html>