


Date: August 15, 2022

To: All DD Waiver, Mi Via Waiver, Medically Fragile Waiver, Supports Waiver, State General Fund Agencies and Stakeholders

From: Jason Cornwell, Director 
Developmental Disabilities Supports Division

Subject: All DDSD COVID-19 Directives Rescinded across all Services and Programs

Pursuant to the most recent health order dated August 12, 2022, providers of programs and services regulated by DDSD are no longer subject to certain COVID safety requirements.

The recent Public Health Order denotes that all settings licensed by CMS are required to continue following COVID measures. This designation includes settings such as nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and intermediate care facilities. Services and programs regulated by DDSD, however, do not fall under this jurisdiction as these settings are not licensed by CMS.

Therefore, in conjunction with the New Mexico Department of Health's amended Public Health Order dated August 12, 2022 (please see attached), services and programs regulated by DDSD will no longer be required to adhere to COVID measures.

DDSD strongly advises providers to evaluate the necessity of imposing vaccination, masking, and screening requirements for all personnel and visitors who may come in contact with individuals in services. Community Homes and Congregate Care Settings regulated by DDSD are responsible for evaluating and imposing appropriate safety measures to protect the clients and staff.

General Events Reporting (GER) regarding COVID-19 related events are still required for the Developmental Disabilities Waiver and Supports Waiver. Reporting to DDSD on COVID-19 positive cases are still required for the Mi Via Waiver, Medically Fragile Waiver, and State General Fund program. All Appendix K allowances remain in place and unchanged. Furthermore, exception requests related to COVID-19 exposures, positive cases, requests to combine homes due to lack of staffing, requests to complete remote visits, etc. remain in place, unchanged, and must continue to be submitted to DDSD for consideration of approval.

Agencies may elect to implement more stringent restrictions than those required by DDSD or the Public Health Order. Please see page 5, section (8) of the attached Public Health Order.

As a reminder, any Tribal orders issued supersede requirements in this memo.

Additional Resources:

- NM DOH COVID-19 Site: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/>
- DDS D COVID-19 Site: <https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/diro/ddcv/>
- NM DOH COVID-19 Safe Practices: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-safe-practices/>
- Report a Public Health Order Violation: <https://www.newmexico.gov/2020/03/25/how-to-report-non-compliance-within-a-business-a-violation-of-the-mass-gatherings-ban-or-other-violations-of-the-public-order/>
- NM DOH COVID-19 Vaccine General Information: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-vaccine/>
- NM DOH COVID-19 Vaccine Site: <https://cvvaccine.nmhealth.org/>
- New Mexico Notify [NM Notify | Help New Mexico Stop The Spread](#)
- Vault COVID-19 Testing Resource learn.vaulthealth.com/nm/
- COVID-19 testing at Curative sites, which can be located through the NMDOH website: <https://findatestnm.org/>
- New Mexico Crisis and Access Line | www.nmcrisisline.com
- Crisis and Access Line | 1-855-NMCRISIS | 1-855-662-7474
- Peer-to-Peer Warmline | 1-855-4NM-7100 | 1-855-466-7100
- Healthcare Worker and First Responder Support Line | 1-855-507-5509
- Link to free at home testing kits <https://www.covidtests.gov/>

If you have questions, please contact the following DDS D Staff:

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Do you want to pre-register for your COVID-19 Vaccine?

Visit cvvaccine.nmhealth.org to register today.