
DDSD Guidance for Moving during the COVID- 19 Pandemic DD Waiver Only

This guidance is for interdisciplinary teams when developing a COVID-19 Safe Move-In Safety Plan during the Public Health Emergency.

Decision to Move

Moving during the COVID-19 pandemic can present varying levels of risk of exposure to the virus. For all moves, the Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) must provide the Regional Office a *COVID-19 Move-In Safety Plan* for the move. The *COVID -19 Move-In Safety Plan* must address: Symptom screening to include temperature checks prior to move, packing, transportation, and symptom screening to include temperature checks after move in.

1. Existing DD Waiver participants should delay moves during the Public Health Emergency unless required for health and safety.
2. Existing DD Waiver participants must have an IDT meeting prior to all moves and the DDSD Transition Plan must still be completed.
3. New allocations may consider a residential service that requires a move during their initial DD Waiver Individual Service Plan and budget. New allocations do not require approval to move but must follow all other steps below.

House Tours and Meeting Housemates

1. See guidance for [Online Meeting Accessibility](#)
2. For moves into provider owned or controlled settings, the Provider Agencies must provide remote tours and introduction to potential housemates.
3. Suggestions for remote home tours and meeting housemates may include:
 - a. Video conference with roommates and staff.
 - b. Video or virtual tour of new house.
 - c. Photos of the new home and roommates.
4. Individual may drive by the house to see where the home is located and what the home looks like on the outside. However, individual must still be provided the opportunity to have a remote home tour and to meet prospective housemates.

Preventive Measures to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19 Before a Move: What about screening housemates especially if someone is working?

1. To determine a move-in date, follow CDC guidelines for: [When You Can Be Around Others When You Had or Likely Had COVID-19](#).
2. Develop a **screening plan**:
 - a. Ensure as much as possible that the person does not have or is not likely to have COVID-19 on the move-in date.
 - b. Conduct daily symptom screening.
 - c. If an individual is symptomatic prior to move in date, the team should assist the individual in obtaining a COVID-19 test. The team should await the results of the COVID-19 test. If the individual is COVID-19 positive the move must be delayed, and the person must seek medical attention as necessary and must quarantine. If the COVID-19 test results are negative the move may proceed.
 - d. Consider symptom screening and temperature checks with individuals currently living in

the home before the new individual enters the home.

3. Develop a packing plan:

- a. Ensure the individuals personal items are packed to avoid multiple direct touch points of belongings.
- b. Limit contact with belongings by individual and anyone involved in packing.
- c. Designate one person or as few people as possible to provide packing supports.
- d. Use disposable boxes or bags or plastic wrap to cover as much as possible.
- e. Medication transition needs discussion regarding how preparation and exchange of medication is to take place.

4. Develop a transportation plan:

- a. Follow CDC Guidelines for [Protecting Yourself When Using Transportation](#).
- b. Develop screening plan for driver and others directly supporting the move.
- c. Ensure high touch surfaces are sanitized.
- d. Open windows or increase ventilation.
- e. Practice before and after transport hand- washing.
- f. Masks must be worn at all times during transportation and practice social distancing in vehicle.

Preventative Measures to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19 During a Move:

1. Designate a space in where uncovered belongings can be held for disinfection/sanitation prior to being brought into the home.
2. Conduct symptom screening with temperature checks before individual enters the new home. If positive for COVID-19, the move should not occur.
3. Designate a spacious pathway for entry.
4. No visitors, natural supports or other provider staff should enter the home.
5. Upon arrival, request the individual take a shower and wear clean and already disinfected/sanitized clothes. Wash other clothes immediately.

Preventive Measures After Move:

1. Supported Living homes should continue to CDC follow guidelines [Group Home Guidance for People with Disabilities](#):
2. After move-in, initiate daily screening for all individuals in home for 2 weeks.
3. Avoid shared living areas including bathrooms for two weeks.
4. If exposure occurred, complete a General Event Report (GER), reintroduce to shared space using CDC guidelines [When You Can Be Around Others When You Had or Likely Had COVID-19](#)

Resources:

Online Meeting Accessibility: <https://www.internetsociety.org/blog/2020/07/are-your-virtual-meetings-accessible-for-people-with-disabilities-start-with-this-checklist/>

When You Had or Likely Had COVID-19 <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>

Group Home Guidance for People with Disabilities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/group-homes.html>

DOH Guidance on COVID Safe Practices: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-safe-practices/>

Protecting Yourself When Using Transportation: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/using-transportation.html#TypesofTransportation>

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