



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
*Aging and Long-Term Support Administration*  
*PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600*

March 11, 2020

**ALTA: ALF #2020-009**  
**COVID-19 LINKS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Dear Assisted Living Facility Administrator:

We understand you have received a lot of information about COVID-19. The links below will help you find critical information quickly.

**Links**

- [ATSA Assisted Living Facility Professionals](#)
- [Provider Letters](#)
- [ALSTA COVID-19 Guidance and Resources](#)
- [Department of Health](#)
  - DOH Hotline: 1-800-525-0127
  - [COVID-19 Outbreak](#)
  - [DOH COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control webinar \(registration required\)](#)
  - [DOH Recommendations for LTC Facilities during COVID-19 Outbreak](#)
  - [Local Health Jurisdiction interactive directory map](#)
- [CDC COVID-19](#)

**Governor's Proclamation 20-06.**

On February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee issued [Proclamation 20-05](#), declaring a state of emergency for Washington State due to the COVID-19 outbreak. On March 10, 2020, the governor issued [Proclamation 20-06](#), which amends 20-05. Proclamation 20-06 contains the following significant prohibitions for nursing homes and assisted living facilities to protect residents against COVID-19:

- No more than one visitor is allowed per day per resident. Visitors must be adults and visits must take place in the resident's room.
- Visitors must be screened according to criteria listed in the proclamation.
- Visitors must sign in on a reporting log.
- Facilities are prohibited from destroying the visitor log for 30 days.
- Employees and volunteers must be screened at the start of their shift, and are not permitted to work or volunteer if they show symptoms associated with COVID-19.
- Residents under a recommendation or order from the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) or the local health jurisdiction for isolation or quarantine for COVID-19 must be isolated in their rooms. A resident can choose to leave at any time.
- Nursing facility staff and volunteers are prohibited from disclosing protected and confidential information except as provided by law or with the consent of the resident.

The proclamation waives and suspends the following sections of Chapter 70.129 RCW: 090(1)(f), 090(2), 140(2)(b), 140(3), 140(4), and 140(5). It also waives and suspends WAC 388-97-0520(1)(g) and WAC 388-97-0520(1)(h).

This proclamation is effective immediately and will remain in place until midnight on April 9, 2020.

**The visitor limitations of the proclamation do not apply to:**

- **End of life situations**
- **Health care teams such as doctors, behavioral health providers, home health nurses so that care and service needs of residents are met**
- **Department of Social and Health Services staff, including staff from the Developmental Disabilities Administration and Aging and Long-term Support Administration**
- **Local health jurisdiction staff**

**Additional Information**

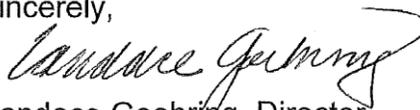
Here is a partial list of actions you can take to protect residents, staff, and yourself:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and use hand sanitizers when hand washing is not available
- Screen all people for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to entering the facility, including staff, health care providers, and visitors
- Practice social distancing with residents and visitors
- Require visiting in a resident's room rather than common areas
- Consider postponing group outings in the community
- Consider postponing extracurricular activities within the home that are not needed to meet the care and services of your residents

For more information about how to best protect residents, staff, and yourself, and to get the most current guidance for your facility, please visit the web sites listed above frequently as the situation is changing rapidly.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeanette Childress, Policy Program Manager, at (360) 764-9804 or [Jeanette.Childress@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Jeanette.Childress@dshs.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



Candace Goehring, Director  
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"