

Aging and Long Term Support Administration Residential Care Services Reimplementation of Inspection and Investigation Activity

Reimplementation of Inspection and Investigation Activity for Residential Care Services

In following the Governor's Proclamations and focusing attention on infection prevention and mitigating the spread of COVID-19, Residential Care Services (RCS) has limited regulatory activity to Infection Prevention investigations, surveys, inspections, and technical assistance, along with investigation of any complaints regarding imminent harm to clients.

In alignment with the *Phased Long Term Care Facility Reopening Recommendation and Requirements* document, RCS is reintroducing routine inspection and investigation activities into the schedule, RCS will utilize the following process:

July through October 2020

- Continue to follow CDC, DOH, and LHJs guidelines to help slow the spread of COVID-19.
- Continue ensuring RCS staff have adequate PPE for onsite investigations and inspections.
- Continue to follow "Washington Phased Approach for Modifying Physical Distancing".
- Continue to investigate imminent danger/abuse and neglect/actual harm allegations and infection control allegations.
- Continue COVID-19 infection control assessments and investigations, as needed.
- Continue initial licensing inspections, initial certification survey, preoccupancy survey, state licensure survey and recertification surveys.
- Conduct backlogged Day 2 and 10 complaints onsite and Day 20 and 45 complaints offsite.
- Conduct backlogged follow-up visits to determine compliance (harm and enforcement onsite, and non-harm offsite).
- Resume investigation of all Day 2 and 10 complaint investigations onsite, and Day 20, 45, and 90 complaint investigations offsite.
- Conduct backlogged case mix accuracy review visits in nursing facilities through modified off-site process.
- Continue participating in multiple stakeholder meetings and keeping communications open with state partners.
- Continue working with Long-Term Care Incident Command.
- Continue assisting providers to obtain PPE.
- Continue with local county jurisdictions in counties identified as "hot spots".
- Continue monitoring and working with Home and Community Services and Developmental Disabilities Administration for residents and clients transitioning to COVID-19 only facilities.

November 2020 Forward

- Reset AFH/ALF/ESF inspection 18.99 month interval and state fire marshal inspections in assisted living 12.99 month interval.
- Reset the NH and ICF/IID survey 15.99 month interval.
- Reset SL, SOLA, Group Home, Group Training Home certification evaluations to be completed at least once in a 24 month period.
- Resume onsite full unannounced inspections/follow up visits for AFH/ALF/ESF, including all state fire marshal inspections/follow up visits, if applicable.
- Resume onsite all unannounced Day 2, 10, 20, 45, and 90 day complaint investigations including state fire marshal complaint investigations, if applicable
- Resume unannounced onsite recertification surveys/follow-up visits and case mix accuracy review visits in nursing facilities.
- Resume unannounced onsite recertification surveys/follow-up visits in ICFs/IID.
- Resume unannounced onsite certification evaluations in certified community residential agencies and state-operated residential programs.

In conducting the above referenced activities, RCS staff, upon entrance will wear the appropriate PPE and have adequate supply of hand sanitizers. Upon exit, RCS staff will dispose of used PPE in accordance with the policies of the facilities/agencies and/or programs.

Please direct questions regarding the **Reimplementation of Inspection and Investigation Activity for Residential Care Services** to RCSPolicy@dshs.wa.gov