



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

March 4, 2022

AL TSA: CCRSS #2022-005
SAFE START FOR LONG-TERM CARE PLANS REPLACED WITH
LONG-TERM CARE COVID RESPONSE PLAN

Dear CCRSS Provider:

The Department of Health and the Department of Social and Health Services have replaced the *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Documents* with the *Long-Term Care (LTC) COVID Response* plan. The updated plan is effective as of February 23, 2022.

The plan also includes the following changes:

- Provides direction and resources to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Department of Health (DOH), and the local health jurisdiction, including specific guidance for each CCRSS setting (Supported Living, Group Home, or Group Training Home);
- Provides specific guidance on screening requirements; and
- Updates visitation recommendations to allow for open visitation in long-term care facilities, unless there is a reasonable clinical or safety cause.

Click here to view the [LTC COVID Response Plan for CCRSS](#).

Thank you for your continued commitment to client health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact RCSPolicy@dshs.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Mike Anbesse, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"