



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

November 13 2020

**ALTSA: AFH #2020-058**  
**ALTSA: ALF #2020-053**  
**ALTSA: ESF #2020-042**  
**ALTSA: CCRSS #2020-041**  
**ALTSA: ICF/IID #2020-043**  
**ALTSA: NH #2020-081**

**COVID- 19 TESTING OF RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICES STAFF**

Dear Provider/Superintendent /Administrator:

Residential Care Services is initiating testing of all RCS staff and contractors who perform on site regulatory functions, consultations or training at any of the facilities, agencies and homes regulated by RCS.

Testing frequency will occur weekly with test results reported to the employee and their supervisor.

This surveillance testing is for the purpose of diagnosing COVID-19 for asymptomatic staff. Any staff identified as COVID-19 positive will be immediately quarantined with test results reported to the local health jurisdiction according to reporting requirements. Employees will return to work when they meet return to work requirements established by the Department of Health.

Any employees symptomatic for COVID-19 infection will be directed to their health care provider for testing and treatment and will be quarantined. Employees will return to work when they meet current return to work requirements established by the Department of Health.

Employees will be subject to health screening questions when entering any facility, agency or home while performing work for RCS. They will not have their test results available to you, but can affirm during the health screening that they have been tested. No employee will be allowed to work after a positive test result and before they have met the return to work criteria.

Thank you for your continued commitment to providing care and services to our Washington residents and clients receiving long term care services.

Please contact the RCS Policy Unit at [rcspolicy@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:rcspolicy@dshs.wa.gov) with questions.

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director  
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"