



COLORADO
Office of Communications
Department of Public Health & Environment

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State releases amendment to public health order for long-term care facilities

DENVER (April 21, 2020): Today the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) released an amendment to the public health order for long-term care facilities to prevent and control outbreaks of COVID-19. The [amendment to Public Health Order 20 20](#) requires that long-term care facilities, including residential care facilities, nursing homes and assisted living residences, submit COVID-19 prevention and response plans by [May 1, 2020](#), to contain the spread of any disease outbreak that may occur within the facility.

Key elements of this public health order include:

- A severe limit on visitors in long-term care facilities.
- An at-the-door symptom check for all employees, vendors, and visitors before entering the facility.
- A COVID-19 Prevention and Response Plan submitted by the facilities to CDPHE by [May 1, 2020](#).
- A plan to isolate people who have COVID-19 symptoms or positive tests.
- A requirement that facilities ensure all residents have access to necessary medical care.
- A requirement that all facility residents and employees wear a mask or other face-covering when in public. Facility employees must wear an appropriate mask at all times when they are in the facility.

Long-term care facilities should use the [template](#) available on the CDPHE website at covid19.colorado.gov/ltof to draft a plan. Facilities must submit the plan to CDPHE by [May 1, 2020](#). The plan should detail how the facility will identify and isolate residents who test positive for COVID-19 or have symptoms, develop a plan to monitor symptoms, and outline staff training.

As of April 21, there were 119 reported outbreaks in Colorado. An outbreak is defined as two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in a facility with onset in a 14-day period. Details about outbreak data are available at covid19.colorado.gov/outbreak-data.

Continue to stay up to date by visiting covid19.colorado.gov.

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