

March 20, 2020

North Dakota (ND) Medicaid: Licensed Assisted Living Facilities (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions

How are licensed Assisted Living Facilities currently impacted by COVID-19?

The North Dakota Department of Human Services administers the licensing and regulation of assisted living facilities within the state. Pursuant to NDAC 75-03-34 licensing of Assisted Living Facilities, “assisted living facility” means a building or structure containing a series of at least five living units operated as one entity. The assisted living facility provides or coordinates individualized support services to accommodate the individual’s needs and abilities to maintain as much independence as possible.

How does this impact the provision and or coordination of individualized support services?

Each assisted living facility is unique with respect to the services offered or coordinated by the facility. One facility may offer one or two services, and another may have more depth to the services provided. The facility develops and maintains a written contract that includes identifying the services provided to the individual tenant. Some facilities have noted within their contract that additional services not provided by the facility can be provided by a third party or by informal supports via friend or family.

How does the facility address visitor restrictions as it relates to a third party or informal service supports?

The department would like to emphasize that the facility acknowledges the additional cares or services provided by an outside entity or by means of informal supports when developing a COVID-19 preparedness plan. If visitor restrictions are part of the plan, please work closely with the individual to identify a strategy that continues to meet their needs. The facility should connect with the North Dakota Department of Health to discuss available options such as exceptions for family members that assist with essential health needs or services.

Who do we contact with questions or recommendations relating to COVID-19?

The North Dakota Department of Health (ND DoH) serves as your health expert and contact for questions and recommendations relating to coronavirus (COVID-19). Guidance and recommendations are available to assist facilities with assessing and improving their preparedness to respond to COVID-19. The ND DoH is committed to providing timely information and updates related to COVID-19.

How do we contact the Department of Health?

For the most updated and timely information and updates related to COVID-19, visit the NDDoH website at www.health.nd.gov/coronavirus, follow them on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) and visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

For general information regarding the license and regulation of North Dakota Assisted Living Facilities, please visit www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/assisted-living.html. For more information, email mdphillips@nd.gov or call 701-328-2324.

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