
ODP Guidance for ICF Providers Regarding Testing and Reporting Cases of COVID-19

On June 26, 2020, the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), Dr. Levine, ordered Long Term Care Facilities, including private Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs), to complete a [universal testing protocol](#).

All private Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) are required to complete a baseline universal test for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, of all residents and staff no later than August 31, 2020. Universal testing includes: any resident or staff person who has never been tested, and any resident or staff person who was tested prior to June 12, 2020 and whose test result was negative.

Please utilize the [Long Term Care Facility Universal Testing Form](#) created by DOH to report the completion of your facility's Universal Testing implementation. This form should be completed within 48 hours of the completion of Universal Testing efforts, or 72 hours after the issuance of the Universal Testing Guidance if your facility has already accomplished Universal Testing. Please ensure that you indicate on the form, when asked, that you are licensed by ODP.

Please continue to follow the instructions provided in [ODP Announcement 20-065: Clarification for Reporting Cases of COVID-19](#). Any time an individual or staff is tested for COVID-19 and receives a positive test result; this testing must be reported to ODP. This reporting is required, regardless of the reason for the test. **As a reminder, reporting to ODP is required when individuals and staff are tested because they are symptomatic. Reporting to ODP is not required when testing occurs as a result of agency/facility universal testing AND the results are negative.**

The documents on [the Requirements for Testing Residents and staff of private Intermediate Care Facilities](#), [Testing of LTCF residents and staff FAQs](#) and [Interim reopening guidance](#) are available.

When developing your internal reopening plan please review the Health Alert Network (HAN) targeting the remediation or preventative maintenance of water systems in buildings that may have been vacated or underutilized during the COVID-19 outbreak to prevent a possible Legionella outbreak. The HAN released by DOH was intended for medical systems but is good guidance for all settings to address preparing water systems in buildings that are reopening. Please review [this document](#) as you develop plans and implement reopening strategies.