

**PROVIDER ADVISORY #2020-016**  
**MANDATORY COVID TESTING FOR MEDICAID WAIVER PROVIDERS CONDUCTING SERVICES**  
**WITHIN AN APD LICENSED FACILITY**

EFFECTIVE DATE: AUGUST 26, 2020

On August 3, 2020, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) adopted [Emergency Rule 65GER20-1](#), which requires all APD-licensed homes and APD-operated residential facilities to conduct Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) testing of staff every two weeks. In addition to requiring staff of APD-licensed facilities to be tested every two weeks, this rule also requires waiver providers of other services to also be tested if they render services in the APD-licensed facility. Staff or providers entering the facility as of August 24, 2020, must have proof of having completed testing within the last 14 days and every two weeks thereafter.

The Division of Emergency Management has contracted with a single testing vendor, Curative Labs, Inc., to distribute all testing kits by mail and/or courier directly to all facilities for staff testing. Curative is contracted to perform all laboratory analysis and must provide results within 48 hours of receipt.

The tests mailed by Curative allow for self-administered specimen collection witnessed by a trained individual and do not require a nurse or other health care professional to administer the specimen collection. Each facility will use a pre-addressed return shipping label to mail all completed tests to the administering lab who will collect and process all results.

## Testing

- All staff and providers are required to be tested every 2 weeks
- Testing kits provided by Curative are intended for staff/provider testing only
- All tests must be administered at the facility; testing kits are not to be taken home by staff or providers
- The facility is responsible for the tests being administered, must follow all instruction for processing, and must verify that all staff and providers have been tested in accordance with the emergency rule. Once testing begins, entry to these facilities will not be allowed without proof of testing
- Providers who will be rendering services in an APD-licensed facility must notify the facility that they need to be tested and make an appointment with that facility to do so

- Providers who enter multiple APD-licensed facilities must choose a single location as his/her testing site every 2 weeks
- Providers only need to be tested at one site but must show proof of testing before being allowed entry to other APD-licensed facilities where his/her testing does not occur
- Providers will be required to sign a disclosure form allowing the Licensed facility owner to submit the provider's test specimen and to see the results of the testing through the Curative portal
- The Provider will receive an email from Curative of the testing results

The emergency rule requires facilities to use this state-provided testing for all staff, regardless of any other arrangements for testing. The emergency rule is in effect for a period of up to 90 days.

Providers may submit questions regarding the testing process to:

[covid.19.testing@apdcares.org](mailto:covid.19.testing@apdcares.org)