

Emergency Preparedness Requirements

MDH LICENSED CONGREGATE SETTINGS

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is responsible for investigating, tracking, and controlling infectious disease outbreaks. Congregate living facilities including nursing homes, home care providers/assisted living, certified board and care, and ICF/IID are at increased risk for an outbreak of respiratory illness, particularly COVID-19. These providers are already expected to have emergency preparedness regulations in place.

Facilities licensed by MDH are expected to follow emergency preparedness regulations:

- For federally regulated facilities, please reference State Operations Manual [State Operations Manual: Appendix Z - Emergency Preparedness for All Provider and Certified Supplier Types Interpretive Guidance \(www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertEmergPrep/Downloads/Advanced-Copy-SOM-Appendix-Z-EP-IGs.pdf\)](#).
- For state-only regulated facilities, please reference [144A.4791 Subd. 12 - Disaster planning and emergency preparedness plan \(www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/144A.4791#stat.144A.4791.12\)](#).
- Additional guidance can be found by review of the [MDH COVID-19 Toolkit: Information for Long-Term Care Facilities \(www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/ltctoolkit.pdf\)](#).

The Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS) published guidelines for all Nursing Homes nationwide regarding visitation and other restrictions in the CMS QSO Memo 20-14, Revised, which can be referenced [here](#). QSO Memo 20-14, Revised, was adopted by MDH's Health Regulation Division to be applied to all congregate settings in March 2020, which can be referenced [Updated Guidance for MDH-Licensed Providers of Residential Settings with At-Risk Residents | COVID-19 \(www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/homecare/docs/covid031620.pdf\)](#).

Please follow up with the pertaining number below for any questions:

- For public questions, please call the MDH Public Hotline at 651-201-3920
- For provider questions, please call the MDH Provider Hotline at 651-201-5414



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Contact health.communications@state.mn.us to request an alternate format.

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