

Guidance for Intermediate Care Facilities, Assisted Living Residences, Personal Care Homes, State Hospitals, Community Residential Rehabilitation, Long Term Structured Residences, Residential Treatment Facility for Adults, State Centers, and Youth Development Centers and Youth Forestry Camps in Counties in the Green Phase of the Governor's Process to Reopen Pennsylvania

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As counties enter the Green Phase of Governor Wolf's [Process to Reopen Pennsylvania](#), facility restrictions remain in place for Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs), Assisted Living Residences (ALRs), Personal Care Homes (PCHs), State Hospitals, Community Residential Rehabilitation (CRRs), Long Term Structured Residences (LTSRs), Residential Treatment Facility for Adults (RFTAs), State Centers, and Youth Development Centers and Youth Forestry Camps (YDCs/YFCs). The Department is following the recommendations of the Department of Health for Skilled Nursing Care Facilities and choosing a longer waiting period after the counties in which the ICFs, ALRs, PCHs, State Hospitals, CRRs, LTSRs, RFTAs, State Centers, and YDCs/YFCs are located enter the Green Phase before relaxing restrictions in those facilities. Due to the nature of the vulnerable populations living in these facilities and programs, the Department will apply the restrictions put in place by the respective program office for at least 28 more days after the beginning of the Green Phase in that county.

The Department of Health is working to develop a well-informed, manageable plan that ensures a measured approach for the safe return to activities, visitation, and other events for residents in these facilities and programs. Once the Department of Health completes that process, the Department will issue updated guidance amending the restrictions currently in place.

While in-person visitation continues to be restricted, congregate care providers are responsible to facilitate ongoing communication between individuals, family members, friends, and anyone else the individual chooses to communicate with during the COVID-19 pandemic. Unless otherwise indicated by the individual, the expectation is that communication with family and friends is supported on a regular and routine basis for each individual. The provider should be creative in ways that assist the individual to remain in contact with family and friends and feel comfortable with the method of communication. A few examples include:

- Arranging a meeting that occurs between an individual or family/friends viewing each other through a window or glass door, so that social distancing guidelines can be followed.
- Using technology such as FaceTime, Skype, Zoom meetings, Facebook, Messenger, etc.
- Promoting communication through telephone calls, email, writing letters, texting, sending photographs or videos, or the use of virtual assistant technology (ex. Amazon's Alexa or Google Home).

For additional guidance and resources in Pennsylvania, please visit the Department's Coronavirus-Related Provider Resources webpage.

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Coronavirus-Provider-Resources.aspx>