



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Human Services

Aging and People with Disabilities

500 Summer St. NE, E-02

Salem, OR 97301



March 17, 2022

To: Families and Visitors of Oregon Nursing Facility, Assisted Living, Residential Care and Memory Care Communities

From: Mike McCormick, Interim Director
Aging and People with Disabilities Program
Oregon Department of Human Services

Subject: Masks and Infection Prevention and Control Protocols in Long Term Care Settings

On February 24, Governor Kate Brown announced that she would be lifting Oregon's COVID-19 emergency declaration, effective April 1.

Although the emergency declaration will be lifted soon, COVID-19 is still present in Oregon, and we must remain vigilant. Long-term care workers and volunteers are still subject to vaccination requirements, masking requirements and other state and federal rules issued under existing non-emergency state and federal authority.

On March 12, Oregon will be adopting new indoor mask policies. It is important to note that the indoor masking policy changes **do not apply to long term care settings**.

On behalf of long-term care providers licensed by the Oregon Department of Human Services, we ask that you to continue to respect and follow the state and federal guidelines for long term care settings in Oregon.

It will take time to unwind many of the COVID-19 specific policies put in place throughout the pandemic and this will take longer in long term care settings due to the need to exercise more caution with older adult populations.

We appreciate your continued cooperation and support in following infection prevention and control core principles at the setting where your loved one resides. This promotes their continued health and safety.