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August 6, 2021

To: ODDS Stakeholders

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Subject: Vaccine Requirement for Providers

On August 4, Governor Brown [announced](#) she has directed the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to issue a rule requiring weekly COVID-19 testing for personnel in health care settings to prevent the spread of COVID-19, which can be waived with proof of vaccination.

OHA released its [rule](#) on August 5. Full compliance with the rule is required no later than Sept. 30, 2021.

This rule applies to the following Office of Developmental Disabilities Services' (ODDS) settings:

- 24-hour residential group homes
- I/DD adult foster homes

We know that protecting people with I/DD from COVID-19 is our highest priority. We also recognize the impact this may have on staffing, further stressing agencies that are already facing significant staffing challenges. Our plan is to quickly gather stakeholder input on ideas to support providers as they adjust to these new requirements. We are considering idea such as additional funding for vaccine incentives and funds for COVID-19 testing. More details on this will be coming soon.

Sincerely,



Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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