

# Information Memorandum Transmittal Developmental Disabilities Services



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**Number: APD-IM-20-045**

**Issue date: 5/1/2020**

**Topic:** Developmental Disabilities

**Due date:**

**Subject:** Responsibilities for providers with COVID-19 symptoms

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees                     | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type} | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs             | <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In Home Services                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other ( <i>please specify</i> ):                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services  | Developmental Disabilities provider agencies, children and adult foster care providers.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs                |  |

**Message:**

ODDS recognizes that providers of all types are under a great deal of strain due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Providers across Oregon have performed at commendable levels and their work is appreciated and valued, now more than ever. Currently, ODDS requires that people who are showing symptoms of COVID-19 or have a confirmed case of COVID-19 not provide direct care until their symptoms have subsided for 72 hours or they are released to work by their doctor. Additionally, ODDS requires screening for any non-resident (and preferably, resident if they leave the home) entering the home, to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

In order to assure that these precautions are being followed to ensure health and safety, ODDS is taking steps to ensure people with I/DD are being protected from risk of exposure to COVID-19.

ODDS has made a temporary change to OAR 411-323-0050 that prohibits an agency

to allow an employee or volunteer who has been diagnosed with or is showing symptoms of COVID-19 to provide direct care to individuals that may result in exposure of an individual to COVID-19. It is the Department's intent to act on violations of this rule by putting one or more conditions on the agency's certificate and/or endorsement. Specific conditions will be considered on a case by case basis.

ODDS also intends to apply the same standard and take similar actions under its existing authority for children's foster home providers (OAR411-346-0220(1)) and adult foster home providers (OAR 411-360-0250). This may include levying civil penalties on adult foster care providers. Child foster home providers, foster care licensees who live with the residents of the home, resident managers, or other paid providers who live in the home, will be considered to be posing a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of an individual when they fail to take reasonable measures to prevent transmittal of COVID-19 as directed by the health care professionals or Local Public Health Authority. Allowing a person diagnosed with or showing symptoms of COVID-19 into the home who isn't a resident of the home may also be cause for a condition to be placed on the foster home license or certificate.

Providers are strongly encouraged to enact screening protocols for staff as if they were visitors and follow the screening criteria described in [PT-20-028](#).

*If you have any questions about this information, contact:*

Contact(s):	ODDS COVID-19 Team	
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