



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



Division of Developmental Disabilities

COVID-19

DDD's Top priority is the health and safety of our members, their families, and the professionals in our program that support them
The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is:

- Working with ADHS and CDC guidelines to ensure appropriate measures are in place to allow for the continuation of necessary services
- Monitoring service delivery and availability to ensure service continuation
- Providing regular updates on the DDD COVID-19 Website:
https://bit.ly/DDD_COVID19Actions

Vendor Blasts

Provider Guidelines

FAQs

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

March 11: Governor's Executive Order directs ADHS to make emergency rules for skilled nursing, intermediate care, and assisted living facilities to implement visitor policies designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 including:

- Instituting policies to require screening and triage before entry by staff, visitors, vendors, and contractors
 - Establishing disinfectant schedules for frequently touched surfaces
 - Establishing policies of distancing people who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 from others in common areas
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- DDD followed up with its assisted living facilities, ICFs and skilled nursing facilities to ensure that these changes were implemented
 - DDD strongly encouraged group homes to implement similar procedures
 - DDD reminded all provider agencies to review their Pandemic Plans and to update if necessary

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

March 12: DDD told vendors what to do when the Vendor needs to change the service delivery for a specific member or at a specific service location. Vendors must send notification of proposed service delivery changes to DDDQMUdocs@azdes.gov. They should receive a response in 24 hours.

March 16: DDD Support Coordinators began to conduct 90-day planning meetings through video conferencing or telephone calls.

March 17: DDD suspended all on-site monitoring visits with the exception of serious health & safety threats which will be investigated in person.

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

March 17-26: DDD allowed the use of telehealth for Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Early Childhood Autism Services and Habilitation, Music.

March 25: DDD allowed Day Treatment services to be provided at the member's home or in a developmental home and allowed billing for 1:1 or 1:2 day treatment ratios without prior approval.

DDD has **not** issued direction for Day Treatment Programs to suspend services. DDD encourages vendors to work in coordination with members, families, and Support Coordinators to identify an alternative service delivery for in-home care (if needed) and consider the service delivery flexibilities that have been authorized by DDD for Day Treatment services.

Changes in DDD Regarding COVID-19

March 29: DDD Posted a specific COVID-19 Guidance for Congregate Settings and Non-Healthcare Settings on the DDD COVID-19 webpage: bit.ly/DDDProviderGuidance

- Establishing protocols and procedures
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Environmental Tips
- Agency Preparedness
- Anticipatory Member Protections
- Identification of Members at High Risk

Updates on Training

Prevention and Support: DDD has temporarily adjusted the expectations for Prevention and Support training.

- Effective immediately, new employee certification requirements in Prevention and Support will be temporarily suspended unless the employee is assigned to a member:
 - With a Behavior Treatment Plans (in any setting),
 - With a Functional Behavioral Assessments, and/or
 - Who is receiving behavioral health treatment for a challenging behavior that may require physical intervention.
- Employees who are currently certified in Prevention and Support but hold certifications that have or will soon expire, will be granted a 90-day extension.

Updates on Training

Article 9: DDD has authorized webinar style training with a live instructor.

- Attendance must be recorded at the beginning and end of each online training session.
- Testing must be conducted via telephone and the agency is required to record and maintain records.

CPR/First Aid Training: Can be completed online through a nationally recognized provider

Direct Care Workers: The 90-day training requirement has been suspended

- Remote learning opportunities may be available

In-person evaluation must occur following the conclusion of the COVID-19 emergency.

Online Guidance and Updates

- DDD COVID-19 Actions web page: bit.ly/DDD_COVID19Actions
- Compiled these guidelines for individual and/or congregate settings to help facilitate current best practices during this COVID-19 pandemic: bit.ly/DDDProviderGuidance
- The Arizona Department of Health Services issued this COVID-19 Infection Control and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Guidance to assist providers in obtaining PPE and cleaning supplies: bit.ly/ADHSGuidelines

Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected

Governor Ducey issued an Executive Order
Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected
effective: **March 31, 2020 at 5 p.m.**

- Essential Businesses will remain open. Essential Businesses are defined as: *a function that promotes the public health, safety and welfare of the state or assists others in fulfilling such functions.*
- DES has been identified as an agency that provides essential services.
- DDD and Provider Staff will continue working. Services will continue under the executive order.

Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected

The Governor is asking people to stay home, except to complete **essential activities such as:**

- Healthcare Operations
- Public Health operations
- Human Service Operations
- Transportation
- Home Based Care and Services
- Residential Facilities
- Attending Work for Essential Services
- Obtaining Necessary Supplies and Services for Household Members Including Pets.
- Caring for a Family Member, Friend or Pet in Another Household or Residence
- Engaging in Outdoor Activities

Stay Home, Stay Healthy, Stay Connected

Resources:

- COVID-19 Congregate Setting Guidelines on Social Distancing, Room Isolation and Caregiving: bit.ly/DDDCOVIDGuide
- DDD Website: bit.ly/DDDMain
- DES Website: www.des.az.gov
- ADHS Website: www.azdhs.gov
- CDC Website: www.cdc.gov
- Corona Virus Website: www.coronavirus.gov



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Questions?