

COVID-19: What we know today

From DODD:

DODD released new guidance on visitation in congregate living locations, updates med. admin. guidance, and rescinded NMT guidance. Please see the links below for additional info.

DODD Guidance

[Guidance: Waiver Visitation](#)

[Guidance: ICF Visitation](#)

Updated Guidance

[Rescinded Guidance: DODD Non-Medical Transportation](#)

[Guidance: Medication Administration](#)

From OACB: DODD pulls NMT guidance, defers to ODH and CDC; New statewide transportation restart rules expected

As part the ongoing discussion on non-medical transportation (NMT) safety standards in the COVID-19 pandemic, DODD has rescinded two previous NMT guidance documents released on March 26 and May 8 ahead of forthcoming statewide rules from the Ohio Department of Health.

These rules, which DODD hopes will be announced in the very near future, will cover mandatory safety measures for all health and human services agencies as well as public transportation. OACB anticipates these will be similar in format to other [Responsible Restart Ohio protocols](#), which prescribe minimum operating requirements for specific industrial sectors.

Between now and the time those guidelines are released, DODD is temporarily referring DD service providers to general transportation guidance from ODH and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) so that safety measures can continue without interruption in this interim period. These documents include the following guidelines:

- Social distancing of at least 6 feet between passengers and drivers, and physical barriers and/or visual cues to enforce distancing measures;
- Pre-shift symptom screening for vehicle operators;
- Mandatory mask use for vehicle operators and suggested mask use for passengers; and
- Routine vehicle cleaning and disinfection (no less than daily).

[Read ODH's Transportation Guidance](#)

[Read the CDC's Transportation Guidance](#)

Face Shields vs Masks

Mary Spain: KICKS Director, followed up with DODD staff and received guidance that people participating in services who prefer not to wear masks can wear face shields instead. ("Face shields are acceptable and fall under the definition of "facial coverings" being used in the guidance language.")

Thank you for sharing the info, Mary!

Did You Notice Online Module Goes Live

Director Jeff Davis talks about an exciting new training opportunity for anyone who supports people with developmental disabilities. The "[Did You Notice?](#)" training encourages providers to approach all behavior as a form of communication, which leads to increased observational skills, knowledge, and empathy.

PPP Flexibility Act passes Congress

The US Senate today passed unanimously, on its second try, [legislation](#) to relax some of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) rules. The House of Representatives previously adopted the bill by a 417-1 vote. The key provisions of the Flexibility Act boost the borrower's ability to convert the PPP loan into a grant by lowering the percentage of the loan that must be spent on payroll from 75% to 60% and by expanding the time period for accomplishing this result from 8 weeks to 24 weeks. If the loan does not become a grant, the time the borrower has to repay the loan is extended from two to five years. The legislation is now on its way to President Trump for signature.