
COMMUNITY LIVING SERVICES PROGRAM
Home Visit Policy During COVID-19

I. Purpose

To establish and describe policy and procedures for New Star residents living in residential settings visiting their family/guardian homes or otherwise visiting off-site locations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This policy is in effect for specific counties that New Star serves when the Community Levels for those counties determined by the CDC are at "high."

II. Policy

New Star community living residents and their families/guardians must agree to adhere to the following home visit guidelines to prioritize the health and safety of all New Star residents and staff. This policy applies to everyone living in CILA homes operated by New Star; it does not apply to ICILA apartments.

III. Procedures

A. General Home Visit Procedures

- Off-site visits are only permitted with a family member/guardian for necessary medical appointments
- New Star residents must be accompanied by a family member and/or guardian for all medical appointments
- 48 hours notice must be given to New Star staff for all off-site appointments

B. Overnight Visits

During the COVID-19 pandemic, overnight visits to a family home are permitted effective April 1, 2021 for at least 24 hours. The following guidelines must be followed:

- CDC guidelines for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals must be followed for the duration of the home visit. For a list of the updated CDC guidelines, please see our guide
- 48 hours notice must be given to New Star staff for all overnight visits
- During the home visit, the individual must be monitored for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 including fever, cough, body aches, chills, loss of taste or smell, or other flu-like symptoms, and will not be permitted back at New Star if experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19

- Unvaccinated individuals may be asked to produce a negative COVID-19 test before coming back to a New Star home. An at-home test will be given to each person who leaves for a home visit and should be administered before coming back to New Star. Individuals with a positive test will be asked to stay on home visit for an additional 14 days from their positive test date.
- Additionally, individuals will not be permitted to leave for home visit if they have been in direct contact with someone with COVID-19 until their quarantine period has passed since the date of exposure

C. Subject to Change Clause

- These policies and procedures are subject to change as the situation in Illinois regarding COVID-19 also changes. As the governor and other municipalities update their regulations, this document will be updated as new information unfolds.