Policy
Residents of provider-managed settings are able to engage in indoor, outdoor and off-site visits as described in Guidance for Residential Providers on Visits with Family and Friends. Residential providers are required to allow visitation.

Regardless of vaccination status, all staff, contracted professionals, visitors, and day program participants must be screened, including temperature checks, before entering a provider-managed residence or congregate day program facility. This includes scheduled staff coming onto each shift. A record of all screenings shall be maintained. In all instances, screening is to occur in an accessible designated area that accommodates social distancing and infection control standards. Please see page 3 for screening policy for residents entering/returning to the residence.

For day program facilities, indoor screening areas must be separated from the program facility by walls or physical barriers. Outdoor screening areas must be sufficiently sheltered to allow utilization during inclement weather. In-vehicle screening is permissible for program participants.

First responders who are entering the facility to address an emergency do not need to be screened ahead of entering the residence or program facility.

Staff who show signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection at work must be immediately separated from resident/program participant areas and screened for further action.

Individuals that answer “NO” to all screening questions AND have a temperature below 100.4 degrees will be able to enter the residence or program facility and/or participate in a Social Distancing Visit.

Procedure for Entering a Day Program – Participants
Regardless of vaccination status, program participants shall be screened for COVID-19 before boarding an agency vehicle that will transport them to the day program. This includes taking and recording their temperature. If they are showing symptoms and/or fever they shall not be permitted on the transport vehicle. Inform their caretaker regarding symptoms and direct them to see a healthcare professional. Program participants transported by an entity other than the day program provider shall be screened prior to entry to the program facility.

Procedure for Entering a Residence – Residents
Regardless of vaccination status, residential providers are required to screen all residents and monitor them for sudden or emerging symptoms/signs of illness. This includes taking and recording their temperature. If they are
showing symptoms and/or fever, they should be immediately isolated away from other residents and a healthcare professional immediately consulted to determine if further isolation and/or COVID-19 testing is needed. If symptoms appear to be immediately life-threatening, 911 shall be called.

**Procedure for Entering a Residence or Day Program – Staff**

If, after undergoing screening, staff are permitted to enter the residence or day program, the residential or day program staff shall:

- Perform hand hygiene upon entering the residence or day program.
- Follow standard precautions and provider guidance related to preventing COVID-19 spread, including wearing well-fitting face masks and other relevant PPE.

Fully vaccinated staff who may have been exposed\(^1\) to COVID-19 and who are asymptomatic do not need to be restricted from work for 14 days following their exposure. Additionally, those asymptomatic staff who have recovered from COVID-19 infection in the prior three months should follow this same guidance. Staff who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated and who have been exposed to COVID-19 should be excluded from work per NJDOH [Guidance for COVID-19 Diagnosed and/or Exposed Healthcare Personnel](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html).

At this time, people are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 ≥2 weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or ≥2 weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen).

**Procedure for Entering a Residence – Visitors**

Indoor visitation in congregate residential settings must be permitted so long as there have been no resident positive COVID-19 cases within the last 14 days, no residents in the home are currently symptomatic of COVID-19 infection, and there has been no staff positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days*. In the case of symptomatic residents (regardless of vaccination status), testing for COVID-19 as directed by a healthcare professional shall occur. Indoor visits should not take place in the setting during that period unless result(s) are negative for all symptomatic and/or unvaccinated/not fully vaccinated residents.

*If a staff member who had contact with residents has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days it does not preclude indoor visits if all the residents of the home are vaccinated. If one or more residents of the home are not fully vaccinated and were exposed to that staff person, indoor visits shall not take place until 14 days have passed. Testing for COVID-19 as directed by a healthcare professional shall occur. Providers shall advise visitors whether any staff have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days to help inform their decision whether to proceed with a planned visit.

Visitors and the residents being visited are not required to be vaccinated to visit. Providers may require visits to be scheduled in advance, as was allowed pre-pandemic. Visitors should wear a well-fitted mask and physically distance from other staff/residents/visitors they are not visiting with. Residential providers may put reasonable visitation requirements in place based on prevailing public health recommendations and Division requirements in addition to screening based on the underlying health conditions of the residents of a home.

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Screening Questions

1. Signs and symptoms of a respiratory infection (Regardless of vaccination status)
   a. Have you had a temperature over 100.4° within the past 24 hours?
      - Current temperature must be verified and recorded as directed.
      - Thermometer must be completely sanitized between uses.
   b. Have you had any of the following symptoms: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea (see CDC Symptoms of Coronavirus).

2. Close contact with someone who has COVID-19 (Not applicable to fully vaccinated staff unless they are immunocompromised)
   a. Have you had close contact with someone* who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

      Please note that if the close contact was solely due to continuing care for an infected individual in the residence or other healthcare setting and appropriate personal protective equipment was worn during that encounter answering Yes to this question does not preclude the staff person from working or someone participating in a visit. In this instance, the staff person can continue to work, unless they display symptoms, and should follow universal precautions including wearing personal protective equipment. Please see NJDOH Healthcare Personnel Exposure to COVID-19 Case Risk Algorithm for detailed information.

   Close contact for healthcare exposures is defined as follows: Someone who was: (a) within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated, and/or (b) had direct contact with the infectious secretions of a person with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19.

   Examples:
   - Caring for or visiting the person.
   - Having unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions or excretions of the patient (for example, being coughed on or handling a dirty tissue).

   CDC Contact/Exposure Resources:
   - CDC Guidance for Potential COVID-19 Exposure Associated with International or Domestic Travel
   - CDC Guidance for Risk Assessment and Work Restrictions for Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure to COVID-19

   a. Are you unvaccinated and have traveled within the last 14 days to a U.S. state other than Delaware, New York or Pennsylvania for more than 24 hours and not followed CDC guidance upon return – including self-quarantining for at least 7 days after travel AND having had a negative test for COVID-19 3-5 days upon return to NJ, OR having self-quarantined for 10 days upon return and being asymptomatic of COVID-19?

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2 At this time, people are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 ≥2 weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or ≥2 weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen).