CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) UPDATE FOR FAMILIES AND PROVIDERS

September 17, 2020
THANK YOU!

~ Direct Support Professionals ~
~ Self-Directed Employees ~
~ Support Coordinators ~
~ Individuals/Families ~
~ Providers ~
Today’s Webinar Will Provide Information on...

- State and DDD-Specific COVID-19 Statistics
- DDD October Update Webinars Schedule
- Behavioral Supports Webinar Series
- Eligibility Application Update
- Goods and Services Update
- SDE Reminders
- Day Program Re-Opening
- Resources
New Jersey COVID-19 Current Statistics*

*This update is as of 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

For regular updates: [https://covid19.nj.gov/](https://covid19.nj.gov/)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State of New Jersey</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>197,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>14,263</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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For regular updates: [https://covid19.nj.gov/](https://covid19.nj.gov/)
## DDD Specific COVID-19 Statistics*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Developmental Centers</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Licensed</td>
<td>Own Home</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>1,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*DDD-specific statistics are updated weekly. Community data includes individuals actively under DDD services in settings such as group homes, supervised apartments, out of state, and own-home settings.

Full detail, including data for individuals not under services for whom reporting is voluntary and provided for informational purposes only, can be found at [NJ Department of Human Services COVID-19 Information](https://www.nj.gov/health/doh/coronavirus/covid19.html).
DDD October Webinar Schedule

- October update webinars will be held:
  - October 1, 2020 – 10:30 am.
  - October 15, 2020 – 10:30 am.
  - October 29, 2020 – 10:30 am.

- Register once for October webinars: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7684397016242693390.
The DDD Resource Team has partnered with the Rutgers Community Living Education Project to provide The Basics of Behavioral Supports Webinar Series.

Beginning September 22, 2020, the series will focus on introducing participants to basic behavioral supports based on the principles of Applied Behavioral Analysis.

Please visit The Basics of Behavioral Supports Webinar Series link to register.
The Division is pleased to announce the availability of a new option for submitting an Eligibility Application to the Division:

- Scan completed application and all supporting documents, email as attachment(s) to: DDD.NJApply@dhs.nj.gov.

- Subject line must include:
  - Intake Application – applicant initials – applicant county of residence. Example:
    Intake Application JS Mercer County

- Application available at Apply for Services.
Limited DDD Approval for Remote Goods and Services Classes/Lessons

- Guidance in April provided flexibility for an individual to participate in virtual classes/lessons that had previously been provided in person and funded through Goods and Services.
- Because it is not known when the public health emergency may end, at this time the Division is approving **three-month intervals** for any virtual class/lesson submitted for review under Goods & Services.
- Goods and Services Request Forms must indicate whether the requested service will be rendered in person or virtually.
SDE Reminders

- All self-directed employees (SDEs), including parent, spouse or guardian, are required to:
  - Get fingerprinted, even if temporary clearance was initially obtained through DHS so that hiring could move forward.
  - Get drug tested and complete Child Abuse Record Information (CARI) check as soon as possible and within 120 days from the start of SDE services.
  - Complete mandated SDE trainings within expected timeframes.
  - Maintain and submit service documentation. Information is available on the Self-Directed Services webpage.
SDE Reminders

- SDEs and Service Documentation
  - Soft rollout of Service Documentation began September 8.
  - Non-submission of Service Documentation will not impact payment or employment status at this time.
  - Full implementation, where lack of Service Documentation may impact timely payment, is not yet in place as the Division wants to provide ample time for implementation.
  - Please use this time to get in the habit of completing Service Documentation.
  - Timesheet submission through the online portal or mobile application is strongly encouraged.
Day Program Re-Opening

- The Division released [Congregate Day Program Re-Opening Requirements](#) on September 3, 2020.
- Congregate Day Programs can elect to re-open as early as September 21, 2020.
- Some programs may open later than that date or elect not to re-open at this time.
For Individuals, Families, Guardians and Support Coordinators:

- The decision to return to a congregate day program is solely the decision of the individual/guardian, who should:
  - Review [Congregate Day Program Re-Opening Requirements](#) in its entirety.
  - Complete the [Individual Needs and Risk Assessment](#) together with the day services provider.
  - Review, sign and provide [Receipt of COVID-19 Information Form](#) to provider before return.
For Congregate Day Service Providers:

- Review Congregate Day Program Re-Opening Requirements in its entirety.
- Contact individuals served to complete the Individual Needs and Risk Assessment together. Assessment is used to inform Facility Readiness Tool.
- Once in compliance, email the Congregate Day Program Re-Opening Attestation, per instructions, at least 48 hours before re-opening.
- Be sure to collect the Receipt of COVID-19 Information Form for individuals who decide to attend in-person congregate day services before their return.
Day Program Re-Opening

**Note on Screening**

- Residential providers are required to screen and take temperature of residents returning to a residential facility from day program, employment, community outings, etc.
- This screening can take place inside the residence and should be done before the resident interacts with other residents.
- Additionally, residents should be regularly monitored for sudden or emerging symptoms/signs of illness and kept back from day program if they are or may be ill.
Day Program Re-Opening

• Note on Screening
  ○ If a resident shows symptoms and/or fever, they shall 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.
  ○ Please see the updated guidance:
    - Office of Licensing Residential FAQs.
    - Residential and Day Program Screening Policy.
Frequently Asked Questions.

**Q:** Is the maximum facility capacity based only on the number of individuals served or the number of individuals and staff present at the congregate day program?

**A:** Capacity is based on the number of individuals served who are present and does not include staff.
• Frequently Asked Questions.

**Q:** Who signs the Individual Needs and Risk Assessment?

**A:** The day services provider can sign the Individual Needs and Risk Assessment. Please note that the Individual Needs and Risk Assessment must be completed by the individual/guardian and day provider together.
Frequently Asked Questions.

**Q:** Is a congregate day services provider required to re-open on September 21, 2020?

**A:** No. Some providers may open after that date if they need more time to come into compliance with the requirements or may elect not to re-open at all at this time.
• Frequently Asked Questions.

**Q:** At what times of the day can a provider deliver in-person congregate day services?

**A:** Day services delivered in a congregate day program facility can only take place during weekday daytime hours.
• Frequently Asked Questions.

**Q:** Can individuals who don’t attend the congregate day program but are interested in participating tour the facility?

**A:** Visitation to the congregate day program during normal hours of operation when individuals are present is **not** permitted. Agencies can elect to complete a virtual tour or schedule an in-person tour before or after regular program hours.
Frequently Asked Questions.

Q: Are support coordinators (SCs) required to participate in the Individual Needs and Risk Assessment discussion?

A: No. SCs are not required to participate but may participate if the individual/guardian and provider are comfortable with their participation.
Frequently Asked Questions.

Q: Is SC responsible to ensure that the Individual Needs and Risk Assessment is completed?
A: The day services provider is the entity required to complete the Individual Needs and Risk Assessment with the individual/guardian. If the SC is aware that this has not been completed for someone attending in-person congregate day services they should alert the provider and the Division immediately.
Important Resources

- **NJ Department of Health**
  24-Hour Hotline: 1-800-222-1222

- **NJ Department of Human Services COVID-19 Information**

- **Contact information for local health departments in NJ**

- **Contact information for County OEM Coordinators in NJ**
Important Resources

For assistance during this time:

- For vital issues, call the Division Community Services office for your county or 1.800.832.9173.
- When calling, you will be connected with the Division’s answering service who will take information about the circumstance and have a Division staff person reach out.
- For routine questions: DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov
- For COVID-related questions: DDD.COVID-19@dhs.nj.gov
- To report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation: call 1.800.832.9173, then press 1.
Highlighted Resources

• For individuals, families and caregivers
  ○ Boggs Center COVID-19 Information and Resources

• For individuals:
  ○ NJ Self-Advocacy Project’s Stay Healthy at Home Webinar Series

• For Direct Support Professionals
  ○ National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) COVID-19 Toolkit for DSPs
  ○ CDC Guidance for Direct Service Providers