

COVID-19 Restrictions

Licensed supportive living, long-term care and hospice RESIDENTS AND VISITING PERSONS

Lifting restrictions

- As of July 13, 2021, Alberta is starting Phase 1 of a staged approach to lifting COVID-19 restrictions in licensed supportive living, long-term care and hospice.
- Some measures will be lifted first, followed by others at a later date.

Timing of lifting restrictions

- Since December 2020, there has been a 99 per cent reduction in the number of active COVID cases in these settings
- Vaccinations have provided significant protection for residents and staff in these settings. The best protection is to get fully vaccinated.

Impact of changes

- Aside from a handful of preventative restrictions being maintained for the time being, **activities and processes on site will resume pre-pandemic status, including presence of family, friends and support persons; recreation activities; and dining arrangements.**

Restrictions in place

Until further notice, the following restrictions remain in place:

- Health Assessment Screening and continuous masking for staff, volunteers and service providers.
- Visiting persons are required to wear a mask continuously in common areas and be screened upon entry.
- Twice daily high-touch cleaning requirements in common areas
- Select quarantine/isolation requirements, when needed
- Outbreak expectations

COVID-19 Outbreaks

COVID-19 outbreaks may still happen and operators will still be expected to adhere to strict outbreak protocols.

Visiting and Vaccines

Unvaccinated visiting persons (including children under 12) are **strongly encouraged** to wear a mask even in resident room/private areas, especially in high acuity settings.

Rule setting

- Within the bounds of existing legislative requirements, operators may review pre-pandemic processes and/or house rules. **They are expected to work with you on any changes that impact you, directly.**
- Operators must have a concerns and complaints process in place and must support the formation and activity of Resident and Family Council for active inclusion of resident/family voice in operating decisions.

Concerns

- If you are concerned about these changes and what they mean for you, please discuss with your site contact.
- If you have serious concerns that you have not been able to resolve with the site (or aren't comfortable discussing), please reach out to ASAL@gov.ab.ca.

Audits and inspections

- Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services will continue to inspect/audit operators against CMOH Order and legislative requirements.
- You may be asked to (voluntarily) participate in an interview as a part of this process.

References

- Continuing Care Standards: <https://www.alberta.ca/continuing-care-accommodation-and-health-service-standards.aspx>
- Disease Management Guidelines: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/coronavirus-covid-19>
- Public Reporting: <https://standardsandlicensing.alberta.ca/>