

Kansas 1915(c) HCBS Waiver Programs **COVID-19 Guidance**

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2020
Most recent key revisions colored blue

Time: 10:00 AM
Recent Releases: 3/24/2020

HOME VISIT MEASURES

Throughout the COVID-19 emergency period, to encourage social distancing and stop the spread of the pandemic, the agency directs that providers and participants limit participation in congregate settings or activities.

FOR WORKERS WHO VISIT HOMES

PREVENTION BASICS

1. At the time of scheduling a visit to a home, assess the situation by asking these questions:
 - a. Practice self-care, personal hygiene and social distancing
 - b. Stay home when sick
 - c. Wash hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds
 - d. Cover coughs and sneezes (into the crook of your arm or elbow)
 - e. Quickly dispose of tissues in the trash.

BEFORE: ASSESS THE SITUATION

2. At the time of scheduling a visit to a home, assess the situation by asking these questions:
 - a. Has anyone in the home traveled within the last 14 days to/from a state or country identified as a hot spot?
 - b. Has anyone in the home been exposed to an individual diagnosed with COVID-19?
 - c. Is anyone in the home showing signs of illness including:
 - i. A fever greater than 100 degrees;
 - ii. Cough; and/or
 - iii. Shortness of breath.
3. If the answer to any of these questions is **YES**, the recipient's temperature is greater than 100 degrees, or the occupant(s) prefers not to have a worker in their home, the visit should be rescheduled or, if possible, conducted virtually.
 - a. As a rule, reschedule the visit for **no earlier than 14 days**.
4. If there are no indications of risk/illness or the visit cannot be conducted virtually, proceed with the on-site visit as long as the occupant(s) are comfortable doing so.

AT THE HOME: REASSESS RISK

Is it essential/required for you to enter the home? If so, read about Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus

5. Before proceeding with the home visit, you, and all staff, must be screened:

Laura Howard, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

- a. If your answer to any of the screening questions is YES, or if you, or a co-staff/personnel runs a temperature greater than 100 degrees, the visit should be rescheduled or, if possible, conducted virtually.
6. When arriving, reassess by asking the same screening questions before entering. If the answer to any question is YES, act as directed above.
7. During the visit:
 - a. Make use the minimum Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). The minimum PPE is as follows:
 - i. Gloves, a facemask, and eye protection. Surgical masks can be utilized effectively when N-95 masks or respirators are not available.
 - b. Initially assess the recipient of the home visit from at least six feet away prior to rendering supports and services:
 - i. take the recipient's temperature
 - c. It is recommended that the recipient of the home visit wears a facemask during the visit for source control.
 - d. Don't shake hands or touch others when greeting or interacting.
 - e. Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer when soap and water isn't available.
 - f. Limit unnecessary contact with surfaces/items and avoid shared use of tablets, laptops, writing utensils and cell phones. Regularly wipe down all items.
 - g. Follow the current COVID-19 guidance to protect yourself and those you come in contact with.

For more information: www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus

Amy Penrod

Commissioner

Aging & Disability Community Services & Programs

Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services

503 S. Kansas Avenue

Topeka, KS 66603-3404