

August 3, 2021

NOTICE OF REINSTATED MASK REQUIREMENT AT RESIDENTIAL/ GROUP HOMES And COVID-Testing Requirement

This notice involves DDRC Residential Group homes

To: Residential care facilities (Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities, Group Homes, and Intermediate Care Facilities)

From: CDPHE Residential Care Strike Team and Infection Prevention and Control Unit



The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) released updated [guidance](#) modifying masking requirements. The changes come after the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended increased mask use indoors for vaccinated individuals on July 27.

Changes include:

- Added updates requiring universal mask use for staff, visitors, and residents regardless of vaccination status. The guidance allows for exceptions for vaccinated residents at particular times during activities and communal dining.
- Added the requirement to test fully vaccinated individuals who have had close contact with a COVID-positive person.

In addition to the mask requirement changes, CDPHE **continues** to implement **rapid testing for all unvaccinated staff and residents** that leave the facility for longer than 24 hours.