Here are Care Providers Oklahoma latest updates as of April 1, 2020

**OSDH LTC COVID-19 Webinar -** Today, April 1, 2020

The Oklahoma State Department of Health, Regulation, Prevention and Preparedness will be hosting its second COVID-19 webinar on Wednesday, April 1st from 1:00 to 2:30.

The webinar will include information and discussion of the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 including current guidance, best practices and questions and answer.  The webinar

is open to Owners, Operators, Administrator and Executive Staff of Nursing Homes, Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities, Continuum of

Care Facilities, Assisted Living Centers, Residential Care Homes and Adult Day Care Centers.

**Join the meeting:**

<https://meet.ouhsc.edu/orion/joinmeeting.do?ED=joNdKpm7YnAFo6pe5LSn9g==&Rnd=0.23161887940180348>

**Access Information**

Meeting Number:  994 928 563

Password: (This meeting does not require a password.)

Audio Connection: (405) 271-2466 (External Access); 12466 (Internal Access)

Access Code:  994 928 563

One tap mobile
+14052712466,,994928563#

**AHCA/NCAL COVID-19 Updates**

[COVID-19 Update #28](https://www.ahcancal.org/facility_operations/disaster_planning/Documents/COVID-19%20%E2%80%93%20Update%2028.pdf) | CMS Call with Nursing Homes Later Today ~ AHCA Accelerated and Advance Payments FAQs

[COVID-19 Update #27](https://www.ahcancal.org/facility_operations/disaster_planning/Documents/COVID-19%20%E2%80%93%20Update%2027.pdf) | Temporary Nurse Aide Training & Competency Checklist ~ Revised Screening Checklist for Visitors and Staff ~ ICF/IIDs and PRTFs COVID-19 Guidance Released ~ Mark’s COVID-19 Video Series: Supporting Frontline Staff

**CMS Call with Nursing Homes Later Today**

Join Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) today, April 1st at 4:30 PM EDT for a COVID-19 Call with Nursing Homes. CMS leadership will provide updates on the agency’s latest guidance. There will be audience Q&A and an opportunity for you to share best practices with your peers. The call will be recorded if you are unable to join. Conference lines are limited, so you are highly encouraged to join via audio webcast, either on your computer or smartphone web browser. You are welcome to share this invitation with your colleagues and membership.

CMS COVID-19 Call with Nursing Homes Wednesday, April 1 | 4:30 PM EDT (877) 251-0301

Conference ID: 8395995 Audio Webcast

**Reminder: COVID-19 Pandemic Response Webinar Series Begins Today!**

The Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) has challenged all long-term care facilities to make modifications to their day-to-day care and services to achieve compliance with all the Infection Control restrictions being mandated by Federal, State, and local governments. This pandemic will have a significant impact on the psychosocial well-being of residents and staff due to the limitations on movement within the facility environment, a moratorium on visitation, and a shrinking caregiving staff as the virus continues to spread exponentially. [This](https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Ascds%3AUS%3A83e25063-ab48-4603-8663-0d184bd89e90) three-part series of discussions offers guidance on adapting care and services to achieve compliance with regulatory directives, while maintaining quality of life for all concerned. This webinar is approved for NAB CEU’s for administrators. Please click on the following [link](https://members.careoklahoma.com/webinar-events) to register for the COVID webinar.

**Article Highlights - Blanket Waivers Issued by CMS For LTC Providers**

[Provider Magazine](https://mailview.bulletinhealthcare.com/mailview.aspx?m=2020040101ahca&r=9077144-7e74&l=003-aea&t=c) (3/31, Connole, 151K) reports that "to help address staffing shortages due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is waiving the requirements that facilities can’t employ anyone for longer than four months unless they meet certain training and certification requirements." Additionally, "in further reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued several blanket waivers for long term care providers with a retroactive effective date of March 1 through the end of the emergency declaration." The American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living has compiled a list of the waivers, which are included in the article. Moreover, AHCA/NCAL will also be offering be "offering an 8-hour online Temporary Nurse Aide training course free to all providers as soon as all required state approvals, such as state occupational licensing and state regulatory requirements, are received."

**Article Highlights - AHCA/NCAL To Provide New Aide Training Course, Competency Checklist for Facilities In Light Of New CMS Waivers**

[McKnight’s Long Term Care News](https://mailview.bulletinhealthcare.com/mailview.aspx?m=2020040101ahca&r=9077144-7e74&l=004-16a&t=c) (4/1) reports the "rule that says new aides cannot work longer than four months without becoming certified has been waived by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services." In its "memo to providers, the American Health Care Association/ National Center for Assisted Living provided a temporary nurse-aide training and competency checklist for facilities when they hire temporary workers," and "announced a training course for new aides." The organization said, "AHCA/NCAL have been advocating for CMS to issue such a waiver to assist in addressing staffing shortages due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is now allowed on the federal level. State approvals, such as state occupational licensing and state regulatory requirements, may also need to be granted." Additionally, McKnight’s points out that "Toronto Raptors Head Coach Nick Nurse offered words of encouragement to health care workers responding to the coronavirus pandemic in a video with AHCA/NCAL President and CEO Mark Parkinson."

**Article Highlights - AHCA Advises Long-Term Care Facilities to Assume Patients Have COVID-19, Unless They’ve Tested Negative**

[Skilled Nursing News](https://mailview.bulletinhealthcare.com/mailview.aspx?m=2020040101ahca&r=9077144-7e74&l=005-499&t=c) (3/31, Flynn) reports that the American Health Care Association (AHCA) "is advising its members to assume that unless a person has tested negative for COVID-19 prior to admission, that patient has the virus," whether they have symptoms or not. AHCA’s guidance says, "The decision-making process to accept hospital admissions will vary depending on the ability of the LTC facility to manage residents who are COVID-19 positive or suspected to have COVID-19. ... Accepting residents from the hospital is also contingent on the LTC facility having adequate staffing levels and [personal protective equipment] to manage COVID positive residents." If that isn’t "possible, then the long-term care facility should halt all admissions until it regains staffing and PPE sufficient to manage residents, AHCA added."

**Reminder: Care Providers Oklahoma Office Coverage**

Care Providers Oklahoma staff will continue to work remotely from home as warranted. We are all still here to assist you with whatever needs you may have so please do not hesitate to contact us as necessary.

**Please visit the Care Providers Oklahoma Resource Page**

Please remember that Care Providers Oklahoma is providing regular [COVID-19 updates](https://members.careoklahoma.com/covidupdate)

via our website including all the AHCA/NCAL COVID-19 Updates.