



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
*Aging and Long-Term Support Administration*  
*PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600*

June 24, 2021

AL TSA: AFH #2021-034  
AL TSA: ALF #2021-034  
AL TSA: CCRSS #2021-030  
AL TSA: ESF #2021-030  
AL TSA: ICF/IID #2021-031  
AL TSA: NH #2021-049

**LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES TO FOLLOW SAFE START PLAN BEYOND JUNE 30, 2021**

Dear Administrator/Provider/Superintendent:

The *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document* (Safe Start Plan) is independent of the *Healthy Washington Roadmap to Recovery*, thus, **all long-term care settings are required to follow the recommendations and requirements outlined in the *Safe Start Plan*, even after June 30, 2021.** The opening of other programs in Washington under the *Healthy Washington Roadmap to Recovery* does **not** apply to Long-Term Care facilities/homes.

The *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document* (Safe Start Plan) establishes criteria for long-term care facilities to permit visitation. The plan also offers guidance on trips outside the facility, communal dining and group activities, testing and screening, source control and personal protective equipment (PPE), and staffing.

- Click [here](#) to view the [Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document for AFH, ALF and ESF](#)
- Click [here](#) to view the [Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document for CCRSS](#)
- Click [here](#) to view the [Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document for NH and ICF/IID](#)

The impact of COVID-19 vaccines on community transmission rates may allow for future changes to the recommendations and requirements in the *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document*.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact [RCSPolicy@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:RCSPolicy@dshs.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Mike Anbesse, Director  
Residential Care Services

*DSHS: "Transforming Lives"*