

Attendance at Day Programs and Community Outings Following COVID-19 Pandemic

Day programs and community outings are an important part of the supports we provide. As each state and local community revisits their stay-at-home requirements, we will apply these guidelines in deciding the appropriate time for our individuals to attend day programs, appointments and restart community outings.

These guidelines are for individuals participating in community outings or attending day programs not operated by the company.

Ensure that transportation and cleaning transport vehicles [guidelines](#) are followed.

Attendance at Day Programs or Participating in Community Outings

Generally speaking, if the local schools, non-essential businesses and restaurants are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, day programs should also be closed, and community outings should be suspended. If non-essential businesses and schools are open, the following guidelines should be considered when deciding if an individual should participate in community outings or attend a day program:

- For day programs, obtain a copy of the infection control policies and ensure that:
 - The program site is cleaned and disinfected at least once per day (and as needed throughout the day)
 - Individuals who attend are screened prior to entering
 - Staff at the program are screened at the start of their shift, wear appropriate PPE and/or face coverings
 - Practice healthy hygiene and infection control practices (e.g., handwashing, not touching the face, etc.)
 - Social distancing practices are implemented to increase the physical space between individuals and to limit interactions in large group settings
- No individual who is ill or under quarantine should participate in community outings or attend day programs.
- Individuals attending day programs/community outings should be screened twice each day for COVID-19 symptoms (prior to leaving the home and upon return to the home). Individuals will be kept at home if:
 - Temp \geq 100.0

AND

- One of more of the following:
 - Muscle aches
 - Chills
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Respiratory symptoms including:

- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- New or changed cough (not otherwise associated with a known chronic condition like smoking or allergies)

See also: [Visitor Screening Tool](#) and [Isolation Procedure](#).

- Individuals should wear masks (cloth masks are acceptable) if tolerated and as required by state or local officials:
 - During transport
 - As possible during the time spent in the community or at the day program
 - Always if required by state/local officials
 - Individuals unable or unwilling to wear a mask if required by state or local officials will be kept at home until the requirement is no longer in place.
- Individuals at high risk should not attend day programs or community outings. According to the CDC, those at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are:
 - People 65 years of age or older
 - People of all ages with chronic medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled such as:
 - Chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - Serious heart conditions such as heart failure
 - Immunocompromised (including cancer treatments, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications)
 - Severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
 - Diabetes
 - Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
 - Liver disease

For those individuals not attending day programs or participating in community outings, please continue to source alternative ways for them to remain engaged. Please see these reference [isolation activity suggestions](#).