

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

“This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Nebraska Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.”

Pursuant to
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-901.03



PROVIDER BULLETIN

No. 20-05

DATE: May 21, 2020 Updated Sept 1, 2020 (link to GER guide only)

TO: Medicaid HCBS DD Waiver Service Providers

FROM: Tony Green, Interim Director 
Division of Developmental Disabilities

BY: Katie Weidner, Program Manager

RE: 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Reporting Requirements

This bulletin is being issued to identify additional reporting requirements for Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Developmental Disabilities (DD) waiver services providers specific to COVID-19-related incidents affecting waiver participants. When a state of emergency regarding COVID-19 was declared, DD recognized the need for COVID-19-specific reporting as it relates to participants in Medicaid HCBS DD Waiver Services. A Supplemental COVID-19 General Event Report (GER) Instructions guide was issued at that time. Since the first issuance, DD recognized an additional need to track participants who have been tested for COVID-19 and the results of this testing, thus the guidance has been updated.

All reportable incidents related to COVID-19 must be reported based on guidance outlined in the supplement at the end of the GER Instructions guide (found at: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Guidance%20Docs/GER-Instructions-Guide.pdf>). This supplement does not replace reporting requirements for non-COVID-19-related incidents.

The supplemental COVID-19 GER Instructions guide provides guidance to assist providers in reporting the following COVID-19-related incidents:

- Displacement from Usual Services Site/Alternative Provision of Services
- Quarantine Due to Suspected Exposure to COVID-19
- Serious Illness (when COVID-19 is suspected)
- Use of an Emergency Room or Urgent Care Facility for Treatment
- Hospitalization of a Participant
- Death of a Participant
- Participant Testing and Participant Test Results for COVID-19

The additional reporting requirements regarding testing and test results for COVID-19 are effective immediately upon the release of this bulletin, however all COVID-19 related events must be reported as outlined in the Supplemental COVID-19 GER Instructions guide, even if they occurred prior to the issuance of this bulletin.

If you have any questions about this provider bulletin, please contact Katie Weidner at katie.weidner@nebraska.gov or 402-471-8786 (desk) or 402-560-1585 (cell).