



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

DDS

Ned Lamont
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Elisa F. Velardo
Deputy Commissioner

To: DDS Qualified Providers

From: Katie Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff

CC: Jordan A. Scheff, Commissioner; Elisa F. Velardo, Deputy Commissioner; Scott McWilliams, Chief Fiscal Officer; Sean Bannon, Operations Center Director; Regional Directors; Assistant Regional Directors

Date: November 30, 2022

RE: Masking Guidance

This memo is to clarify current masking requirements for DDS-funded settings. In accordance with the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS):

- When [Community Transmission](#) levels are high, source control is recommended for everyone in healthcare settings in areas where there may be patient encounters.
- When [Community Transmission](#) levels are not high, healthcare facilities could choose not to require universal source control.
- Even in counties where [Community Transmission](#) levels are not high, source control continues to be recommended for individuals in healthcare settings who are symptomatic, have had close contact with a confirmed COVID case, reside or work on a unit experiencing a COVID outbreak, or have otherwise had source control recommended by public health authorities.

Private businesses also have the option of requiring masks to be worn inside of their establishments under any circumstances. It is at the discretion of the qualified provider to establish guidelines regarding facemasks. Please refer to the website link below for current guidance specific to direct service providers including employees at residential homes. [COVID-19 Guidance for Direct Service Providers \(cdc.gov\)](#)

All locations should continue to follow appropriate infection control guidance regarding use of facemasks and other personal protective equipment, as appropriate. Please refer to the website link below for current guidance regarding infection control practices. [Infection Control: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 \(SARS-CoV-2\) | CDC](#)

Thank you for your ongoing pandemic response efforts.