



Due to the prevalence of COVID-19 and its relative impact on individuals typically living in nursing homes, all individuals entering the nursing home must be screened for COVID-19 symptoms or exposure prior to entry. Any individual showing fever or symptoms of COVID-19 or who has not met the CDC recommendations for discontinuation of [quarantine](#) or [isolation](#) in a healthcare setting must be restricted from entering the nursing home.

Individuals permitted to enter should perform hand hygiene and must wear a well-fitting facemask or face covering. Visitors, including contractors and vendors, should be instructed on infection prevention practices including proper hand hygiene, use of facemasks/face coverings, and limiting movement and surfaces touched within the nursing home.

Ensure staff know what to do and who to notify if symptoms develop while on the job. Any staff who develop symptoms while on the job must immediately stop work, put on a mask, and go home to self-isolate. For information about when staff can return to work, refer to the CDC Return-to-Work Criteria for Healthcare Personnel:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html>

Additionally, you may consider the following screening tips:

- ✓ Check the CDC website regularly for an updated list of COVID-19 symptoms: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- ✓ Check the CDC website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/>) and your state health department regularly for guidance on self-quarantine following international and domestic travel.
- ✓ Consolidate all visitor entry to the nursing home to one single access point.
- ✓ Consolidate staff entry to the nursing home to limited access points. CDC recommends a separate entry for your COVID-positive unit if possible.
- ✓ Maintain records of all screens. If collecting protected health information (PHI), remember that your processes for collecting and storing information must be HIPAA compliant.
- ✓ Keep a dated log of all individuals entering the nursing home, including staff, visitors, contractors, vendors, etc. Consider requesting contact information for each individual entering the nursing home. This will be useful if you need to assist the health department with contact tracing.
- ✓ Maintain ample supplies of alcohol-based hand rub, tissues, face masks, and PPE as appropriate at entry/access points.
- ✓ Prominently post information about who to contact if symptoms develop. Be sure this information is accessible to all individuals entering the nursing home, including staff, visitors, contractors, vendors, etc.
- ✓ Consider how you might educate visitors on COVID-19, infection prevention, and source control measures including signage at entry/access points, in visiting spaces, and on your website.
- ✓ Be sure to stay up to date with recommendations from your state or local health department.