



**COVID-19 Pandemic  
Emergency Operations Plan  
Adult Residential Services**

*May 2021 Update*  
Phased Lifting of Restrictions

**ADULT RESIDENTIAL SERVICES- PHASED LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS FOR RESIDENTS**

Throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic (and Maryland State of Emergency), NCIA has followed the guidance from the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), the Maryland Department of Health and the Maryland Developmental Disability Administration (DDA). Among this guidance was to restrict visitations to and from licensed, residential settings to maximize protection for the residents of each location. Health and safety have always been our priority, and this will continue to guide NCIA's approach at all times.

Based on the success of obtaining vaccinations for residents in our program, NCIA has devised a "phased approach" of lifting some of the restrictions in place. The CDC provides guidance that once vaccinated, residents can begin spending more time with their family and/or loved ones. NCIA emphasizes that all current safety precautions should still be followed while a resident visits in the community. These new guidelines are outlined below and are subject to "pausing" or reversing based on overall community conditions.

*This updated policy incorporates new guidance from the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) & Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) effective May 14,, 2021.*



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**PHASE 1 (EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2021)**

Lifting the restriction for program residents to visit with family. This may or may not include overnight stays. The resident would be subject to restrictions based on the following:

<b>Scenario One</b> (Resident is vaccinated)	<b>Scenario Two</b> (Resident is not vaccinated)
Have received final dose of their vaccine <u>two or more weeks ago</u> . This applies whether or not it was a 1- or 2-shot vaccine.	The resident has chosen not to be vaccinated but still wants to return home to visit family. NCIA strongly advises against this but will respect the decision made by the resident/team.
Recommend they remain masked & socially distanced in the community or with family.	Recommend they remain masked & socially distanced in the community or with family.
Once returning home, the resident <b>must be tested within (48) hours</b> of their return. While awaiting test results, they should remain isolated in their bedroom while at home.	Once returning home, the resident has to isolate in their room/home for (14) days regardless of symptoms. Testing is recommended.
If the resident has no symptoms and is fully vaccinated, they may return to work without a delay as long as they follow that job's safety guidelines such as masking. (e.g., This includes Business Services contracts)	If the resident has no symptoms they may return to work without a delay as long as they follow that job's safety guidelines such as masking. This is true of someone that works in an essential job as defined by Governor Hogan's Emergency Order (e.g., This includes Business Services contracts).
Housemates do not need to isolate but should remain separated from this resident until test results are received.	Housemates do not need to isolate but should remain separated. Only the resident who visited home and was not vaccinated has to isolate.



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**PHASE 2 (EFFECTIVE MAY 21, 2021)**

**What is changing & what are the new rules?**

- Visitors will be allowed back to the home for visitation
- Any visitor that wants to remove their mask during their visit should be able to provide proof (like their vaccine card) they are fully vaccinated.
- If the visitor cannot or will not show evidence to staff on duty, they must remain masked the entire visit. This should happen each and every visit to the home.
- Visitors should maintain 6 feet of distance indoors or outdoors of anyone that they are not visiting (other residents or staff)
- We should encourage visits to take place outside of the home (porch or yard) when at all possible.
- Only visitors for one resident can be in the home at one time. The number of visitors for that resident has to do with how much “socially distancing space” is available. This means that the resident and their visitors must still be able to maintain six feet of distancing from the staff and other residents.
- If all the residents of the home are fully vaccinated, they can share meals and be together inside the home (like the living room) without being masked.

**What is staying the same?**

- Staff will continue to remain masked while working indoors or outdoors. It does not matter if they residents and other staff are fully vaccinated, masking stays in place at all times. Never be inside a home without a mask on.
- If you are given a N-95 or KN-95 type mask you do not need to use a face shield or goggles. If you are given a medical style mask, you should wear the face shield or goggles with it during your shift.
- Symptom screening, hand hygiene, disinfecting, social distancing and staff masking will not change in the homes at this time.



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**PHASE 3 (TENTATIVE DATE OF JULY 1, 2021)**

Lifting of restriction for community outings from the residence with staff support will occur in the future. When this occurs, residents will be able to resume community outings based on their preferences and Person-Centered Plan.

The Director of Residential Services will review scheduling, approval and documentation procedures with staff prior to this restriction being lifted. Masking & social distancing will remain in effect until further notice.

*\*This decision will be made based on many factors including community COVID statistics and the resident's own health status.*

**NCIA may have to delay, postpone or reverse any of this plan based on guidance from federal and state authorities. Potential changes will be made based on the overall health & safety of those that live in the residential program.**