



Indiana State  
Department of Health

# LONG TERM CARE NEWSLETTER

**ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter**  
**Issue 2020-20**  
**April 8, 2020**

**Today's Issue:**

- **State Health Commissioner Orders Enhanced Reporting of COVID-19 Test Results and Deaths**
- **Third Emergency Order Concerning Temporary Personal Care Attendants for Residential Care Facilities**
- **Third Emergency Order Concerning Temporary Personal Care Attendants for Nursing Homes**
- **Indiana State Department of Health COVID-19 Resource Center**

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## **State Health Commissioner Orders Enhanced Reporting of COVID-19 Test Results, Death**

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) announced new reporting requirements for laboratories and congregate living facilities as part of the state's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal is to improve data collection and help ISDH and local health department more quickly deploy all necessary resources to help limit the spread of the disease.

The order signed by State Health Commissioner Kris Box, M.D., FACOG, requires the following:

- Laboratories must report all negative COVID-19 test results for Indiana residents to ISDH within 24 hours of completing the test. Currently, all positive results must be reported to ISDH.
- All long-term care facilities, jails, prisons, or other congregate housing facilities must report positive COVID-19 test results for all patients, residents, offenders and employees within 24 hours of receiving a positive result.
- All long-term care facilities, jails, prisons or other congregate housing facilities are required to report any COVID-19-related deaths or suspected COVID-19-related deaths of patients, residents, offenders or employees to ISDH within 24 hours of the facilities' knowledge of the death.

While many providers and laboratories have been following these processes, this order ensures uniformity and timeliness in the reporting of cases and deaths.

Complete Order: [STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER'S ORDER – Requirements for Reporting COVID-19 Information to the State Department of Health](#)

This order and other COVID-19 information available at: [coronavirus.in.gov](https://www.coronavirus.in.gov).

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## Third Emergency Order Concerning Temporary Personal Care Attendants for Residential Care Facilities

This order supersedes the Indiana State Department of Health's ("ISDH's") April 2, 2020 "Amendment of Emergency Order Authorizing Temporary Personal Care Attendant Positions and Training for Residential Care Facilities."

Effective March 16, 2020 and **continuing indefinitely**, minors age 16 and 17 are also eligible for training and work as Personal Care Attendants ("PCAs").

Complete Signed Order: [THIRD EMERGENCY ORDER CONCERNING TEMPORARY PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES](#)

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## Third Emergency Order Concerning Temporary Personal Care Attendants for Nursing Homes

This order supersedes the Indiana State Department of Health's ("ISDH's") April 2, 2020 "Amendment of Emergency Order Authorizing Temporary Personal Care Attendant Positions and Training for Nursing Homes."

Effective March 16, 2020 and **continuing indefinitely**, minors age 16 and 17 are also eligible for training and work as Personal Care Attendants ("PCAs").

Complete Signed Order: [THIRD EMERGENCY ORDER CONCERNING TEMPORARY PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANTS FOR NURSING HOMES](#)

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## Indiana State Department of Health COVID-19 Resource Center

Please consult the [Indiana State Department of Health COVID-19 webpage](#) for updated news and guidance on the COVID-19 outbreak. Updates will be made as new information becomes available. Please contact your healthcare provider if you experience symptoms such as fever, cough and shortness of breath and have a recent history of travel to areas affected by COVID-19 or contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19.

General questions from the public or healthcare provider inquiries about COVID-19 may be directed to the ISDH COVID-19 Call Center at the **toll-free number 877-826-0011 (available 24/7)**.

