

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS PROCEDURES FOR MITIGATING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the following strategies shall be implemented by each DDSN Regional Center and Saleeby Center (facilities).

Each facility shall:

- Make available to unvaccinated staff approved by DDSN for an exemption or accommodation weekly COVID-19 testing.
- Keep accurate records which reflect the names of staff who require weekly testing, the date testing is completed and the results.
- Have effective strategies in place to inform any staff testing positive of the results of the test and the next steps to be taken before he/she can return to work.
- For each resident, identify if he/she is considered to be most at risk for COVID-19. This identification must be made by or confirmed by the resident's physician.
- Adhere to universal source control and physical distancing measures in areas that are restricted from client access (e.g., staff break rooms, administrative offices, etc.). This shall include, but is not limited to having signage regarding social distancing, handwashing and masking as well as making hand cleaning products available in those areas.
- Employee Health and Infection Control nursing staff shall, routinely and in the manner most convenient to unvaccinated staff, offer vaccinations.

Unvaccinated staff approved for an exemption or accommodation by DDSN, shall:

- Submit to weekly COVID testing. NOTE: Staff providing documentation of having recovered from COVID-19 may be exempt from weekly testing for **90** days following the date of his/her positive COVID test.
- Mask using an N95 or higher source control mask.
- Wear an N95 or higher source control mask, goggles and enhanced barrier protection when required to **perform high-contact care** with any resident who has been identified by his/her physician as most at risk.