



# South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

**Emergency Operations Center (EOC): [EOC@DDSN.SC.GOV](mailto:EOC@DDSN.SC.GOV); 803-898-9754**  
**SITUATIONAL REPORT NO. 12 DATE: APRIL 9, 2020**  
**EVENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

## **I. STIMULUS CHECK SCAMS:**

As an advocate for the individuals supported, DDSN implores staff to take steps to educate others on potential scams. Providers are also asked to follow up with those that are at risk to ensure, in fact, the expected payments were received. These efforts, if properly handled and documented, should be billable activities for CM and EI staff.

DDSN asks that providers search for resources that can be shared with others. There are many available on the internet with a quick search. Please see the links below for a few resources:

[Forbes Article](#)  
[AARP Article](#)  
[Federal Trade Commission Article](#)  
[Social Security Admin Article](#)  
[One Page Handout](#)

## **II. PPE UPDATE: [\(CLICK HERE\)](#)**

Vendors report supplies of PPE are increasing over time. Several vendors were vetted by DHEC and added to DDSN's PPE list. Please click the link above to access this information.

## **III. P&A SURVEY RE: COVID-19 READINESS AND PROTOCOLS:**

P&A is conducting a survey ([click here](#)) regarding COVID-19 readiness and protocols. Providers will receive instructions for completion along with the survey. The survey needs to be completed/returned within three days. The three day time period stems from the regulations under the Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. If providers have difficulty completing the survey within the allotted time period, they should notify P&A. P&A will be happy to call the provider directly to complete the survey over the phone. Calls with providers for completion of the survey are averaging about 10-15 minutes.

## **IV. FAQ DOCUMENT UPDATE FROM DDSN WORK GROUPS: [\(CLICK HERE\)](#)**

A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document was issued in the April 1, 2020 DDSN Situational Report. DDSN is building upon that document with frequently asked questions from this week's Finance, Early Intervention, and Case Management workgroup meetings. Please see the linked document above for updated information.

## **V. RESOURCES FROM STATEWIDE FINANCE TRAINING: [\(CLICK HERE\)](#)**

The documents shared in the statewide Finance Workgroup Tuesday are being uploaded to the DDSN website. Click the link above to access those resources.

## **VI. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RESOURCE GUIDE: [\(CLICK HERE\)](#)**

In the above link, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce ([www.uschamber.com](http://www.uschamber.com)) issued guidance to help small businesses and self-employed individuals check eligibility and prepare to file for a loan. As reported in prior reports, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act allocated almost \$350 billion to help small businesses keep workers employed amid the pandemic and economic downturn. Known as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), the initiative provides 100% federally guaranteed loans to small businesses. Importantly, these PPP loans may be forgiven if borrowers maintain their payrolls during the crisis or restore their payrolls afterward.

## **VII. USDA MEAL PROGRAM WAIVERS:**

Thank you to Robert Decker from Charles Lea Center for sharing this information.

For those providers that operate USDA CACFP programs in Adult Day Programs, application for a waiver through SCDSS can be made to provide meals inside residential programs to those that were receiving billable meals in your Adult Day Program for the time of this state of emergency. All of the requirements related to meals are still the same. The only changes would be related to where the meal is being served and when the meal is served. Providers may also consider provision of billable supplements and billable breakfast meals if expansion to billable meals is preferred. This will save consumer room and board charges for next year and provide them with more available resources to pay for other things the provider agency may be paying for them due to individuals' limited resources. We recommend providers explore this option if already an approved CACFP sub-recipient. Resource links are provided below for those who wish to explore this option. The contact for this waiver process will be [cacfp@dss.sc.gov](mailto:cacfp@dss.sc.gov). The DSS staff are working remotely and stated they preferred to be contacted by email and would initiate calls to discuss. So please include a contact phone number when you email them.

Please note that any revenues for this program must be reflected in your residences not in your Adult Day Program cost center. If you maintain a USDA Food Program intermediate cost center, then you would continue to account for this as in the past, but would allocate any cost in excess of the reimbursement rate or any profit made to the residential programs. Relevant links include:

[SC Child Care Web Site](#)  
[COVID Waivers Information](#)  
[Institutional Waiver Request](#)  
[USDA Guidance](#)

## **VIII. COVID-19 AND PEOPLE WITH IDD: [\(VIEW WEBINAR HERE\)](#)**

The American Association on Intellectual & Development Disabilities (AAIDD) and Health Risk Screening, Inc. (HRS) is sharing a webinar on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The link above to HRS allows readers the opportunity to view this webinar and other resources.

## **IX. COVID 19 SUPPORT PAYMENTS TO FURLOUGHED EMPLOYEES: [\(CLICK HERE\)](#)**

On April 8, 2020, Governor Henry McMaster issued Executive Order 2020-22. This order recognized that employers have been financially strained by the significant economic impacts associated with COVID-19. As a result, businesses in the State have been compelled to place their employees on furlough (i.e., a temporary period of time during which an employee performs no personal services for the employer as a result of a layoff caused by the economic impacts of COVID-19). Please see the above linked information regarding this. A link is provided for the application: [COVID Payment Plan Application](#)

## **X. GUIDANCE ON SWALLOWING DISORDERS AND COVID-19:**

Individuals with IDD are at higher risk for severe symptoms related to COVID-19 due to pre-existing medical conditions including chronic lung disease, asthma, frequent pneumonia and chronic aspiration. If infected, medical complications could result in increased risk for worsening dysphagia, aspiration, dehydration and decreased intake by mouth. Staff should monitor closely for changes in the individual's eating/swallowing status. Temporary changes may be needed in diet/liquid consistency, dining procedures, feeding technique, adaptive dining equipment and/or positioning to decrease these risks. Guidance pertaining to swallowing disorders can be found in directive 535-13-DD: [click here](#).

## **XI. CDC UPDATE RE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS: [\(CLICK HERE\)](#)**

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) published new guidelines for critical infrastructure/essential workers exposed to Coronavirus. The guidelines allow for critical workers who have been exposed to return to work as long as they are asymptomatic and follow certain precautions. More information on these guidelines is linked above.

## **XII. FASB DELAYS LEASES IMPLEMENTATION DATE:**

FASB voted unanimously to delay the effective day of ASU 2016-02 for private entities and ALL nonprofit entities. Currently, nonprofits with conduit debt were required to adopt leases with public companies. That would mean for many educational institutions and hospitals the effective date would have been June 30, 2020 due to fiscal years. As a result, these entities with conduit debt will receive relief as they are currently the most impacted by COVID19.

The new effective date is for fiscal years beginning after Dec. 15, 2020 which is a one-year extension. For June fiscal year entities, this would be for fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. GASB is meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup> and the AICPA is meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup> to consider delays of their standards.

## **XIII. PROVIDER IDEAS – HUMAN RESOURCE HOTLINE:**

DDSN is sharing Provider Ideas that may be useful to the statewide provider network. Please [click here](#) for an HR Hotline idea shared by MaxAbilities. Please submit your ideas for coping with this crisis to the DDSN EOC at: [EOC@ddsn.sc.gov](mailto:EOC@ddsn.sc.gov).

## **XIV. RELIAS TRAINING: [\(CLICK HERE\)](#)**

Relias is offering free, unlimited access to relevant resources and training to help healthcare professionals and individuals prepare, control, and prevent the spread of infection. Please click the link above for more information on this free resource.

## **XV. POST COVID-19 PLANNING:**

Experiencing this unprecedented pandemic has shed light on ways to better prepare for future emergencies. To that end, consider the relationship you have with your County Emergency Manager (CEM). Build a close connection by attending meetings and trainings conducted by your CEM. Be sure to request to be added to the CEM's email list so you can stay in the communication loop. Also, keep the CEM apprised of drills and training conducted, and offer a tour of facilities. The more the CEM knows about your agency and facilities, the better communication will be during emergencies. Please find the contact information for your local CEM at: [EMD Contact List](#).