



**Amended Director's Order**

**RE: Director's Amended Order for the Testing of the Residents and Staff of all Residential Care Facilities**

I, Stephanie McCloud, Director of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) pursuant to the authority granted to me in R.C. 3701.13 and R.C. Chapter 3721, to “make special orders . . . for preventing the spread of contagious or infectious diseases, hereby **ORDER** the following:

1. Effective April 5, 2021, each residential care facility licensed by ODH shall cooperate with COVID-19 testing for residents and staff as required by the State. In order to protect the health and safety of residents and staff, the State has determined this testing shall include, but is not limited to:
  - a. All fully vaccinated staff shall be tested at least once per week. Fully vaccinated refers to a person who is  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of the second dose in a two-dose series, or  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine, per the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Public Health Recommendations for Vaccinated Persons.
  - b. All unvaccinated staff shall be tested at least twice per week.
  - c. Regardless of vaccination status, strategic testing of all residents shall continue. Strategic testing may include, but is not limited to, testing residents with known or suspected COVID-19 exposure; testing symptomatic residents; or testing residents as determined clinically necessary.
2. Additional guidelines may be developed by ODH and/or the Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) as needed.
3. Residential care facilities may be required to provide additional information to ODH and/or ODA as necessary to address the health of its residents and staff related to COVID-19.
4. Test results shall be reported in accordance with the Journal Entry of March 14, 2020, “Amended Reporting Requirements for 2019-Novel Coronavirus Under Ohio Revised Code 3701.14 and 3701.23.”
5. This Order takes into consideration, and is intended to be consistent with, resident rights in R.C. 3721.13.

Accordingly, this Order shall replace all prior Orders regarding testing at Ohio's Residential Care Facilities. This Order shall be effective April 5, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. and remain in full force and effect until the Director of the Ohio Department of Health rescinds or modifies this Order at a sooner time and date.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie McCloud, Director of Health

March 22, 2021

Date