



**CORONAVIRUS MEMBER BRIEFING:
APD Staffing Waivers, DHS COVID-19 Page, Expanded CMS Waivers
April 10, 2020**

OF SPECIAL NOTE

APD Approves Staffing Waivers for Assisted Living/Residential Care & Nursing Facilities

LeadingAge Oregon and OHCA have been working with APD to obtain staffing waivers for assisted living/residential care facilities and nursing facilities. For assisted living/residential care without endorsed memory care through the duration of the COVID-19 Executive Order, certain pre-service dementia training for direct care staff have been waived and can now be completed within 30 days of hire. Similarly, for CBC endorsed memory care, certain pre-service training has been waived for all staff and direct care staff and can be completed within 30 days of hire. The annual in-service training for direct care staff in both non-endorsed and endorsed memory care ALFs/RCFs is waived. See [CBC Training Waiver Chart](#). A provider alert should go out Monday on this.

To expedite the availability of dining assistants in nursing homes, training requirements for dining assistants (OAR 411-086-0250) have been waived and replaced with 8 hours of training that include:

- An online dining assistant training module.
- Training necessary to obtain an Oregon food handlers card via the Oregon Restaurant Association.
- Orientation training for new nursing facility staff pursuant to OAR 411-086-0310, including but not limited to training in resident rights and abuse.
- In-person observation by a RN or SLP to assess skill and competency in a successful manner.

Additionally, it is expected that APD will also waive certain nursing facility staffing requirements in OAR 411-086-0100(5) to allow use of personal care support aides who do not require certification or licensure. AHCA has developed on-line training modules for both the dining assistant and personal care support aide that meets these requirements and will be made available free of charge to members and non-members. We expect APD will be issuing final approval and a Provider Alert early next week on both the dining assistant and personal care support aide.

STATE NEWS

DHS COVID-19 Webpage for LTC Facilities

DHS has developed a [COVID-19 Webpage for LTC Facilities](#) that identifies actions taken by DHS and precautions facilities have implemented to protect residents within nursing homes, assisted living, residential care and foster homes. The webpage includes lists of facilities that are not accepting new residents because of a staff member or resident that has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are awaiting test results of a staff member or resident being tested for COVID-19. Facilities remain on these lists while a resident is recovering from the virus. The facility remains on the list until 14 days have passed without any residents showing symptoms of the virus. Staff members who contract the coronavirus that

causes COVID-19 do not continue to work when ill. The lists are updated twice weekly. In between updates, facilities could be removed from the lists. See the lists:

- [COVID-19 Confirmed Case List - Residents and Staff](#)
- [COVID-19 Pending Case List - Residents and Staff](#)

RESOURCES & TOOLS

NOTE: LeadingAge national will pause their live online updates on both Thursday, April 9, and Sunday, April 12, in recognition of Passover and Easter. Know that they will be working for you through the religious holidays this week, but will take these two days to allow members a chance to observe in their communities and with their loved ones.

Senior Loneliness Line

Senior Loneliness Line is a statewide service provided in partnership between Lines for Life and Oregon Health Authority. Their team of trusted volunteers and staff are specially trained in working with older adults. The statewide service is free for Oregonians over the age of 55. See the full brochure [here](#).

NATIONAL NEWS

CMS Expands Waivers

Last night, CMS temporarily suspended more rules to expand workforce flexibilities for hospitals, clinics, and other healthcare facilities. The changes include two of the waivers LeadingAge advocated for on behalf of members. Read [CMS's release here](#) and look for detailed analysis of what this means for you later today on the [main LeadingAge national coronavirus page](#).

New Insights and Tools from LeadingAge

LeadingAge staff experts are developing essential guidance and tools, and curating the most relevant resources for aging services providers.

- [States Take Action to Sustain Adult Day Services](#)
- [FEMA Public Assistance Program for COVID-19 Expenses](#)
- [HUD Official to Join LeadingAge's April 16 Call](#)
- [USDA Implements Relief for Rural Housing Providers & Residents](#)