



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
*Aging and Long-Term Support Administration*  
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

April 21, 2020

ALTSA: AFH #2020-011  
ALTSA: ALF #2020-013  
ALTSA: NH #2020-015  
ALTSA: CCRSS #2020-008  
ALTSA: ICF/IID #2020-009  
ALTSA: ESF #2020-008  
**REVISED PROCESSES: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT ORDERING  
AND COVID-19 TESTING**

Dear Provider/Administrator/Superintendent:

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) coordinated with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to revise how PPE needs will be identified.

On April 19, 2020, the SEOC began distributing a survey to all Washington state long-term care facilities and agencies. The SEOC will provide survey response information to your local emergency management agency (EMA), who will then arrange delivery and set up an ongoing ordering process. DSHS does not maintain a listing of local EMAs. If you need assistance identifying your EMA, please follow this [link](#) to contact your Local Health Jurisdiction.

You may continue to use the DSHS online store at <http://www.ppewa.com> as a backup for your emergency needs if your EMA cannot fulfill your request. This allows DSHS to cover the gap within their available resources if your EMA cannot fulfill your PPE order or cannot respond in a timely way. Please be advised that DSHS can only fill orders for up to seven days of supplies, and may not have resources to provide a timely fulfillment of your request.

**NEW COVID 19 TESTING GUIDANCE**

If a resident, client, or staff at a facility or agency tests positive for COVID-19, contact your Local Health Jurisdiction for guidance on which additional residents and staff need to be tested.

The Department of Health has issued [PPE Conservation Strategies](#) guidance. Please review and implement this guidance to the greatest extent possible to help conserve resources needed for the health and safety of residents and staff during outbreak.

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director  
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"