

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Aging and Long-Term Support Administration PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

April 28, 2022

ALTSA: AFH #2022-018 ALTSA: ALF #2022-015 ALTSA: ESF #2021-015

ALTSA: CCRSS #2021-012

RESUMING FINGERPRINT BACKGROUND CHECKS

## Dear Administrator/Provider:

On March 18, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-18, which suspended the fingerprint background check requirements for long-term care facilities. Beginning May 1, 2022, long-term care workers will again need to complete a fingerprint-based background check as required by law.

All providers and staff who began working between November 1, 2019 and April 30, 2022 will have 120 days to obtain non-disqualifying fingerprint results from the Background Check Central Unit (BCCU). This means that providers must have non-disqualifying results dated no later than August 28, 2022. New providers who start providing care on or after May 1, 2022 will have 120 days to get their results from BCCU. Settings should monitor for compliance with fingerprint completion per normal procedures.

We are asking all new providers have a fingerprint appointment scheduled before providing care, per current <u>WAC 388-113-0109</u> and emergency <u>WAC 388-06-0525</u>. This requirement has been in place in <u>chapter 388-113 WAC</u>, but not previously enforced because of the proclamation suspending fingerprint checks.

If your Background Check System (BCS) account has pending fingerprints for staff that are not a current employee, please check the archive box on these records in BCS to remove them from pending fingerprint status.

<u>Here</u> is a list of fingerprint locations that are currently open and available to provide fingerprint background checks. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Moore, Policy Program Manager, at (360) 764-9641 or <u>Thomas.Moore1@dshs.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Mike Anbesse, Director Residential Care Services

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