

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

July 22, 2022

ALTSA: NH #2022-044 ALTSA: ICF/IID #2022-016 QSO-22-18-ALL: CLARIFYING VACCINATION EXPECTATIONS FOR SURVEYORS PERFORMING FEDERAL OVERSIGHT AND RESCINDING QSO-10-22-ALL

Dear Administrator/Superintendent:

This letter rescinds ALTSA: NH #2022-014 and ALTSA: ICF/IID #2022-004.

On June 16, 2022, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published <u>QSO-22-18-ALL</u>, which rescinded QSO-22-10-ALL regarding vaccination expectations for surveyors performing federal oversight activities. The new memo clarifies that state survey agencies are responsible for compliance with surveyor vaccination requirements. In addition, CMS explains the guidance does not include the possibility for penalties for non-compliance and prohibits facilities from asking about surveyor vaccination status.

This guidance is in addition to the Governor's August 9, 2021 <u>Proclamation 21-14</u> requiring most employees and private health care and long-term care workers to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact <u>Molly McClintock</u>, Nursing Home Policy Program Manager, at (360) 742-6966 or <u>Debra Hoeman</u>, ICF/IID Policy Program Manager, at (360) 725-3210.

Sincerely,

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Mike Anbesse, Director Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"