



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health

**HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE/ORDER**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NURSING FACILITIES**

TO: All Licensed Nursing Facilities In Louisiana

FROM: LDH Office of Public Health  
Jimmy Guidry, M.D., State Health Officer *Jimmy Guidry, M.D.*

RE: Reporting COVID-19 Information  
Compliance with CMS Requirements

DATE: May 7, 2020

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This Healthcare Facility Notice/Order applies to all nursing facilities licensed in Louisiana, and is issued to provide information regarding reporting of -19 Information.

The State of Louisiana, Department of Health ("LDH"), is committed to taking critical steps to ensure public health and safety. To address and prevent the spread of COVID-19, the State of Louisiana, Department of Health, through its State Health Officer, is **DIRECTING AND REQUIRING** that all licensed nursing facilities in Louisiana comply with the attached Memorandum from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS"), regarding COVID-19 reporting requirements and notification requirements, **EFFECTIVE at 12:01 a.m. on May 8, 2020:**

**RATIONALE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY:**

On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States, effective January 27, 2020. Pursuant to the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*, a state of public health emergency resulting from the outbreak of "coronavirus disease 2019" ("COVID-19") was declared to exist in the entire State of Louisiana by Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020.

These measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public, and are ordered in line with the best guidance and direction from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the US Department of Health and Human Services and/or the

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The State Health Officer expressly finds that the measures ordered herein are necessary to help control and prevent further spread of COVID-19, a communicable, contagious, and infectious disease that represent a serious and imminent threat to the public health.

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me by L.R.S. 40:1 *et seq.*, particularly La. R.S. 40:4(A)(13) and La. R.S. 40:5(A)(2), I, Jimmy Guidry, M.D., State Health Officer, do hereby issue the following emergency order:

**All licensed nursing facilities in Louisiana shall comply with the attached Memorandum from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (“CMS”) [Ref: QSO-20-29-NH, dated May 6, 2020], regarding COVID-19 reporting requirements and notification requirements, EFFECTIVE at 12:01 a.m. on May 8, 2020.**

**(a) This includes complying with the electronic reporting requirements to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Healthcare Safety Network pursuant to the requirements and timelines outlined in the CMS Memo and the referenced Interim Final Rule.**

**(b) This also includes notification to residents, their representatives, and families of those residing in nursing facilities, pursuant to the requirements and timelines outlined in the CMS Memo and the referenced Interim Final Rule.**

Any questions regarding the CMS Memo [Ref QSO 20-29-NH] should be directed to the contact/link noted in that memo.

Please note that these CMS reporting and notification requirements do not replace or supersede other requirements to report to local or state officials. All nursing facilities shall continue to comply with all licensing and certification requirements, as applicable.

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End of Memo