



Adult Day Reopening Considerations

June 15, 2020

Beginning June 11, 2020, Iowa Adult Day Services (ADS) Providers were able to resume operations after temporary closure during the onset and Peak of the COVID-19 Pandemic. While the COVID-19 virus is still circulating in Iowa, and in consideration of the often-vulnerable population served by ADS providers, the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) have [issued recommendations](#) in the following areas: Screening, Activities, Communal Dining, Environmental Services, and Early Identification. As such, the following considerations are based on the IDPH and DIA recommendations to support the safe reopening of Iowa ADS programs and to aid in the prevention of illness in ADS setting.

I. Pre-Reopening

- a. ADS programs should consider the trend in virus activity (number of cases or % of positivity) in the community which can be found at coronavirus.iowa.gov to inform decisions about the timing of safe reopening.
 - i. ADS program participants who are considering joining or partaking in ADS activities should make their own decisions about whether they can safely participate.
 - ii. ADS programs should determine a communication strategy to inform current participants of the program's reopening status and safe strategies deployed by the program in attempt to prevent illness.
 - iii. Prior to reopening any program facility after prolonged closure due to COVID-19, any program facility water systems and features, including but not limited to drinking fountains and decorative fountains, be checked to ensure that they are safe to use, to minimize the risk of Legionnaires' Disease and other diseases associated with water, consistent with CDC guidance available here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html>
- b. ADS programs should assess their current ability (e.g., workforce and supplies) to manage the following recommendations in key areas including but not limited to: Screening, Activities, Communal Dining, Environmental Cleaning, and Early Identification, to inform decisions about safe reopening.

II. Reopening

a. General Considerations

- i. Depending on the size of the ADS program, consistent groups of individuals, including staff, volunteers, and participants should be assigned to the same groups each day.
 1. Participants should not change from one group to another.
 2. Consistent groups must occupy the same space each day.
- ii. The ADS program should establish staggered arrival and drop-off times of participants and encourage family members who transport participants to

the program, to limit direct contact among participants, participant families, and program staff as much as possible.

- iii. ADS program staff should wear single-use gloves when providing direct care to participants, the use of which gloves shall be limited to the provision of care to a single participant, after which the gloves shall be removed and discarded. In the event gloves are unavailable, program staff shall wash their hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer prior to and after providing direct care to each participant.

b. Screening

- i. All employees, visitors, and participants should be screened prior to entry to the program based on [current screening protocols](#) outlined by the Centers' for Disease Control (CDC) which includes screening for:
 - 1. COVID-19 symptoms and fever, and
 - 2. Exposure (close contact) to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 positive individuals.
 - 3. The ADS should also screen for the participant's capability to adhere to the ADS program's safe strategies (e.g., safely and consistently wear a face covering, follow hand hygiene protocols and safe distancing).
- ii. The ADS program should limit points of entry to allow screening of all individuals entering the program.
- iii. The ADS program should ensure adequate supplies and staff to implement screening.
- iv. Staff, visitors, or participants reporting symptoms or having a fever should not be allowed to enter and should seek healthcare as appropriate.
- v. Staff, visitors, or participants who have been in close contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days should not be allowed to enter and should quarantine for 14 days from their last contact with the suspected or confirmed case.
- vi. After passing screening, all staff, visitors, and participants should:
 - 1. Perform hand hygiene. This requires washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use of an approved alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) which contains at least 60% alcohol; and
 - 2. Wear face masks or face coverings when in the program. Face masks or face coverings may only be removed when actively drinking or eating, and while taking medications.
 - a. All staff, visitors, and participants should be educated on the proper use of face masks or face coverings.

c. Activities

- i. Activities may need to be staggered to limit the number of staff, visitors, and participants in the activity area at one time.
- ii. Staff, visitors, and participants should wear a face mask or face covering during all activities.
- iii. Staff, visitors, and participants should complete hand hygiene at appropriate intervals, which may require hand hygiene before and after activity participation. This requires washing hands with soap and water for

- at least 20 seconds or use of approved ABHR which contains at least 60% alcohol.
- iv. Social distancing of at least 6 feet between staff, visitors, and participants should be maintained during all activities.
 - v. Staff, visitors, and participants should avoid sharing objects and practice frequent cleaning of objects that are handled with an appropriate [EPA-approved](#) cleaner.
 - vi. If participants require staff assistance during the activity, staff must follow appropriate hand hygiene between participants.
- d. Communal Dining
- i. Mealtimes may need to be staggered to limit the number of staff, visitors, and participants in the dining area at one time; to support a limited number of individuals at one table; and social distancing of at least 6 feet between individuals and tables.
 - ii. If staff assistance with eating is required, staff must follow appropriate hand hygiene between participants as well as [appropriate use of PPE](#).
 - iii. Staff, visitors, and participants should complete hand hygiene at appropriate intervals, which may require hand hygiene before and after meals. This requires washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use of ABHR which contains at least 60 % alcohol.
- e. Environmental Cleaning
- i. In addition to the routine cleaning schedule, the ADS must clean high-touch surfaces and restrooms with an appropriate, [EPA-approved](#) cleaning product at regular intervals throughout the day in addition to the typical cleaning cycle.
 - ii. If the ADS is notified of a confirmed positive staff, visitor, or participant, immediate, thorough cleaning, including disinfection of high-touch surfaces should occur.
- f. Early Identification
- i. Staff, visitors, or participants reporting symptoms or having a fever should not be allowed to enter and should seek healthcare as appropriate.
 - ii. Staff, visitors, or participants who have been in close contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days should not be allowed to enter and should quarantine for 14 days from their last contact with the suspected or confirmed case.
 - iii. If staff or visitors become symptomatic while at the ADS program, they should:
 - 1. Leave the program immediately and seek medical care and testing as appropriate.
 - iv. If participants become symptomatic while at the ADS program, they should:
 - 1. Immediately isolate in a dedicated/separate space in the program while program staff plan for the participant's departure; and
 - 2. Leave the program as soon as possible; and
 - 3. Seek medical care and testing as appropriate.

- v. The ADS program should educate all staff, visitors, and participants on how to access testing through Test Iowa, the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) ([see criteria](#)), or by contacting their healthcare provider.
- vi. The ADS program should require all staff, visitors, and participants to notify them if they test positive for COVID-19.
 - 1. If this occurs, the ADS program should contact their local or state public health department as soon as possible to seek guidance on how to conduct contact tracing (identifying persons who have spent more than 15 minutes within 6 feet of the positive individual); and
 - 2. Follow any recommendations made by the local or state public health department; and
 - 3. Conduct immediate, thorough cleaning, including disinfection of high-touch surfaces.
- vii. ADS programs may establish a policy defining considerations or a threshold guiding decisions to temporarily close the ADS program for the overall health and safety of its staff, volunteers, and participants.
- g. Return-to-work/Program
 - i. Staff, visitors, or participants who have been in close contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 (within 6-ft for greater than 15 minutes) in the last 14 days should not be allowed to enter and should quarantine for 14 days from their last contact with the suspected or confirmed case.
 - ii. Staff who are either suspected or confirmed positive with COVID-19 should follow the CDC's non-test-based strategy, which is preferred by the IDPH, for returning to work. [Please see LAI's Return to Work Process Map](#)
 - iii. Visitors or participants who are either suspected or confirmed positive with COVID-19 may return to the ADS program upon completion of the CDC's guidance for [Ending Home Isolation](#).