



December 6, 2021

On November 19, 2021, through a notice sent by the Department of General Services, you were informed of the Interim Final Rule (IFR) issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) establishing COVID-19 vaccination requirements for the staff of Medicare- and Medicaid-certified providers and suppliers.

In accordance with the federal mandate via IFR from CMS, you were advised that your staff providing services at certain Commonwealth facilities had to obtain, at a minimum, the first dose of a two-dose series or a single dose COVID-19 vaccination and show verification that they received the inoculation or an approved ADA or religious accommodation by no later than December 6, 2021. A list of the Commonwealth facilities is set forth below:

Department of Human Services

Clarks Summit State Hospital	South Mountain Restoration Center
Danville State Hospital	Torrance State Hospital
Ebensburg State Hospital	Warren State Hospital
Norristown State Hospital	Wernersville State Hospital
Polk Center	White Haven Center
Selinsgrove Center	

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Delaware Valley Veterans Home	PA Soldiers' & Sailors' Home
Gino Merli Veterans Center	Southeastern Veterans Center
Hollidaysburg Veterans Home	Southwestern Veterans Center

You were also advised that your organization would be responsible for handling your employees' and/or subcontractors' accommodation requests.

On November 30, 2021, a federal court issued a nationwide preliminary injunction temporarily halting implementation of the CMS mandate. As a result, the Commonwealth is pausing the implementation of the requirements set forth by the IFR.

Please be advised that the requirement that, as of December 1, 2021, all current contractors, contractor staff, and contracted staffing resources providing services at state health care facilities and high-risk congregate care facilities must be fully vaccinated in order to enter the facility itself and the grounds surrounding the facility or undergo weekly COVID-19 testing remains in effect. All new contractors, newly assigned contractor staff, and newly assigned contracted staffing resources providing regular services beginning after the effective date of this requirement must be fully vaccinated prior to being permitted on-site at the state health care facilities and high-risk congregate care facilities.

All Contractors must report all positive COVID-19 test results to the Using Facility within 24 hours of receipt of results. All individuals that test positive, whether vaccinated or not, must comply with Department of Health quarantine procedures and may not return to the facility until the quarantine period is over.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth J. Hess", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Kenneth J. Hess
Deputy Secretary for Procurement