

# UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



**Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.**

Dear Members,

On Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Governor Baker provided details of his plan to re-open the state of MA. You can access the plan [here](#).

It outlines a Phase-In approach, which relies on everyone following the public health directives in order to protect yourself, your family, your staff, and the most vulnerable among us, which includes our assisted living residents. Details on sector specific protocols and best practices can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

While ALRs have continued to operate as essential services throughout the State of Emergency, they must comply with mandatory, minimum safety standards and [self-certify](#) by May 25, 2020 to meeting those standards specified [here](#) and in the text below:

## **Social Distancing**

- All persons, including employees, customers, and vendors should remain at least six feet apart to the greatest extent possible, both inside and outside workplaces
- Establish protocols to ensure that employees can practice adequate social distancing
- Provide signage for safe social distancing
- Require face coverings or masks for all employees

## **Hygiene Protocols**

- Provide hand washing capabilities throughout the workplace
- Ensure frequent hand washing and ensure adequate supplies
- Provide regular sanitization of high touch areas, such as workstations, equipment, screens, doorknobs, restrooms throughout work site

## **Staffing and Operations**

- Provide training for employees regarding the social distancing and hygiene protocols
- Employees who are displaying COVID-19-like symptoms do not report to work
- Establish a plan for employees getting ill from COVID-19 at work, and a return-to-work plan

## **Cleaning and Disinfecting**

- Establish and maintain cleaning protocols specific to the business
- When an active employee is diagnosed with COVID-19, cleaning and disinfecting must be performed
- Disinfection of all common surfaces must take place at intervals appropriate to said workplace

In order to continue to operate, the essential business must develop a written COVID-19 Control Plan outlining how its workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19. Required Materials are located on [mass.gov/reopening](https://mass.gov/reopening).

**A. COVID-19 control plan template:** Businesses may complete a template, available on the [mass.gov/reopening](https://mass.gov/reopening), to fulfill this requirement. This plan **does not need to be submitted** to a state agency for approval, but must be retained on the premises of the business and be provided in the event of an inspection.

**B. Compliance attestation poster:** Businesses are required to sign a poster, attesting that they have completed a COVID-19 control plan, and post it in an area within the business premises that is visible to employees and visitors. View the poster [here](#).

**C. Other posters:** Businesses are required to post signs and posters describing the rules for maintaining social distancing, hygiene protocols, cleaning, and disinfecting.

***Please contact us if you have any questions at, [MassALA@mass-ala.org](mailto:MassALA@mass-ala.org)***

*\*The information provided in this COVID 19 update is solely for general informational purposes to assist in understanding the evolving guidance regarding the current COVID 19 public health threat. It is not intended to be a primary public health or medical resource, but is provided as a clearinghouse for or compilation of various guidance issued by official and related sources.*