

UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.

Dear Members,

Due to the continued presence of COVID-19 in Massachusetts and worldwide, Mass-ALA is strongly encouraging COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters for all ALR staff. Current data shows that the vaccines are highly effective in reducing the risk of severe disease, complications, hospitalization, and deaths from COVID-19, including most known variants.

Mass-ALA encourages all ALR staff to receive the COVID-19 Booster because we are committed to the health and well-being of all assisted living residents and staff. To not receive the vaccine, and subsequent booster is to leave residents, staff, and their children, families, loved ones, and communities vulnerable to the virus that has caused many deaths, especially in the older adult population. It is critical that we all do our best to protect the most vulnerable among us.

As noted in the [update](#) we shared with you last week, “**EOEA is recommending and urging every ALR to . . . Ensure residents and all staff receive a COVID-19 vaccine booster as soon as they become eligible (2 months after J&J Janssen, or 6 months after the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines). All ALRs must report the percentage of booster eligible residents and staff who have received their booster by December 15, 2021,”** as well as other actions summarized in that letter from Secretary Chen to Executive Directors and Resident Care Directors of all ALRs.

Here is a [list](#) of Mass-ALA business partner companies that are offering booster clinics at ALRs. To make an individual appointment and find a location for a COVID-19 booster: Visit the VaxFinder tool at vaxfinder.mass.gov for a full list of locations. Residents and staff can narrow results at that link to find locations that are offering boosters. For individuals who are unable to use VaxFinder, or have difficulty accessing the internet, the COVID-19 Vaccine Resource Line (Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM, Saturday and Sunday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM) is available by calling 2-1-1 and following the prompts for assistance.

For additional information and FAQs, click [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact us at Mass-ALA@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.*