

UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.

Dear Members,

Last year, Mass-ALA successfully advocated for an extension to the health services, staffing, and training flexibilities that had been allowed during the pandemic. At that time, Governor Baker signed a Pandemic Policies Extension bill that extended several flexibilities in ALRs, including the temporary period for allowing an assisted living nurse to provide skilled services, to be reinstated until March 31, 2023, or until the end of the Public Health Emergency, whichever was sooner.

EOEA sent out a guidance this morning, reminding ALRs that, as of March 31, 2023, the prohibition on retaining residents who require skilled care for more than 90 consecutive days will resume. Any ALR providing skilled care under the flexibilities allowed must create a transition plan for recipients of that care. The requirements are noted in the original message from Patricia Marchetti, which is below.

For more details, today's guidance may be accessed [here](#).

Mass-ALA is advocating for the Common Sense Health Services bill to be approved prior to the expiration, and we will keep you updated if there are changes to the expiration date or any other updates.

Good Morning/Afternoon ALR Colleagues,

In accordance with Section 3 of Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, the prohibition on retaining residents who require skilled care for more than 90 consecutive days ([M.G.L. c.19D, s.11](#)), will resume on **March 31st, 2023**.

As per updated guidance, '*Assisted Living Residences - Skilled Care Guidance*' (see [attached](#)), any ALR providing skilled care must create a transition plan for Residents receiving skilled care to be implemented at the expiration of the Order. This plan must be signed by the Resident, the Resident Representative, or Legal Representative.

Administrative Requirements are as Follows:

1. Please notify EOEA via email (patricia.marchetti@mass.gov) by March 1st, 2023 whether any residents are currently receiving skilled care at your ALR and indicate whether this level of care will be required after March 30th, 2023.
2. Please submit a signed transition plan to EOEA via email (patricia.marchetti@mass.gov) for every resident at your ALR currently receiving skilled care, who will require this level of care after March 30th, 2023.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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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.*