



Dear Members,

The Executive Office of Aging & Independence (AGE) has issued [implementation guidance](#) for the amended 651 CMR 12.00 Assisted Living Regulations, which take effect **July 31, 2026**. The guidance includes a transition period through **September 29, 2026**, provides additional clarity around implementation expectations, temporarily delays enforcement of new epinephrine requirements, and establishes an **October 15, 2026** deadline for submission of required document updates.

Mass-ALA advocated for delayed enforcement of the new assisted living regulations. We also asked questions that have been addressed clearly in a helpful way by AGE in this guidance. We appreciate AGE's flexibility in recognizing the time needed for compliance and its efforts to provide additional implementation guidance.

**Key Highlights:**

- Transition Period Through September 29, 2026: AGE will allow a reasonable implementation period for newly effective requirements while providers work toward compliance.
- Full Enforcement Begins September 30, 2026: Compliance reviews will assess full compliance with all amended regulations after the transition period.
- Epinephrine Requirements: AGE will not currently enforce the new requirements related to maintaining accessible epinephrine supplies and associated operating plan provisions while it works with the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Pharmacy on further guidance.
- Plans of Correction: Providers must continue to address findings through the Plan of Correction process and may include implementation timelines for requirements that cannot reasonably be completed within 30 days.
- Required Document Updates Due October 15, 2026: Updated documents required under the amended regulations must be submitted to AGE by October 15

*See the full update from AGE below.*

Good afternoon,

The Executive Office of Aging & Independence (AGE) is issuing the [attached guidance](#) regarding the final amendments to 651 CMR 12.00: Certification Procedures and Standards for Assisted Living Residences, effective July 31, 2026.

The attached guidance addresses the transition period, the compliance review process, the Plan of Correction process, and other matters related to implementation. We ask that you review the guidance in its entirety and distribute it to the appropriate staff within your Residence. If you have questions regarding this guidance, please direct them to [ALRHelp@mass.gov](mailto:ALRHelp@mass.gov).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

**Assisted Living Certification & Compliance Unit  
Executive Office of Aging & Independence (AGE)**

**Your Partners in Aging.**  
**One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA**  
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*If you have any questions, please contact us at [Mass-ALA@mass-ala.org](mailto:Mass-ALA@mass-ala.org).*

*This update is solely for general informational purposes. It is not intended to replace a full review of the cited regulations or guidance.*

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