

Updated COVID-19 Best Practices for Shelters and Homeless Service Providers Following the End of the Public Health Emergency

This is notice that IDPH has rescinded the **Updated COVID-19 Best Practices for Shelters and Homeless Service Providers Following the End of the Public Health Emergency*** last updated on July 27, 2023. IDPH guidance is aligned with the CDC. Homeless shelters and homeless service providers, overnight emergency shelters, day shelters, warming centers, domestic violence shelters, and meal service providers should follow the [CDC's Respiratory Virus Guidance](#).

Guidance for healthcare settings remains unchanged and the guidance from IDPH continues to align with CDC healthcare guidance. Health care personnel (HCP) providing health care to one or more people experiencing homelessness in shelter settings should follow CDC guidance including:

- COVID: [CDC Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel](#) and [Infection Control: Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2](#)
- Flu: [Information for Health Professionals | CDC](#)
- General Infection Control: [Infection Control in Health Care Facilities | CDC](#)

Shelters and homeless service providers may continue to implement control measures above and beyond routine community guidance. It is recommended that homeless service providers continue to maintain awareness of transmission within their facilities and communities and consider the benefit of implementing additional mitigation measures. When adding prevention strategies, shelter operators should balance the need for prevention of viral respiratory illness with the impact of reducing access to services and programming. Appropriate and timely introduction or escalation of infection control measures may facilitate operations by keeping staff and clients healthy.

*This document does not apply to corrections or schools; please see the corrections and/or [Communicable Disease School Nurse Guidance](#) for any changes applicable in those settings.