



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

Andy Beshear
Governor

275 East Main Street, 5E-A
Frankfort, KY 40621
(502) 564-2888
Fax: (502) 564-6546
<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oig>

Eric C. Friedlander
Acting Secretary

Adam Mather
Inspector General

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Guidance for PRTF I and II

On March 6, 2020 the Governor Andy Beshear signed Executive order 2020-215 declaring a state of emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, a public health emergency. Therefore, pursuant to the authority in KRS 194A.025, KRS 214.020 and Executive Order 2020-215 the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department of Public Health states that the following guidance shall be in effect during the this state of emergency:

Based upon the potential spread of COVID-19 in the Commonwealth, Partial Residential Treatment Facilities I and II, are hereby directed by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department of Public Health to cease operations. This directive takes effect at midnight March 20, 2020.

This communication is to clarify expectations for PRTF's during the current COVID State of Emergency. We understand that you are providing medical necessary services that would fall in to the Urgent Category and recognize that you will continue to operate.

It is our expectation that you will follow CDC guidelines in your facilities.

This would include the following:

1. Limiting group activities to as small a number as possible and engage in social distancing to the degree possible.
2. Eliminate off campus activities except for off-site medically necessary services such as medical appointment that are emergent or urgent.
3. Screen employees upon reporting to work for any signs and symptoms of illness.
4. End outside visitation by families or guardians and promote contact via teleconferencing or other methods of communication.
5. Conduct therapeutic family sessions via telehealth or phone.

We do understand that some of you treat young children and if a parent request a visit, we would encourage a process for them to appeal for an exemption to the no visitor policy. Your clinical team for approval should review those requests. If visitation is granted, the rationale for the visit should be documented.

The visitor should be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID. The visits should be limited in frequency and duration, and held off the unit/patient care areas in a separate area that can be cleaned after each visit.

Thank you for all you are doing to address this crisis and protect those you serve.

CDC COVID-19 website: www.cdc.gov/covid19

KDPH COVID-19 website: www.KYCOVID19.ky.gov

Respectfully,

Adam Mather
Inspector General