



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

DDS

Ned Lamont
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Peter Mason
Deputy Commissioner

To: DDS Providers and DDS Public Sector Settings

From: Timothy Baldwin, DDS Fire Chief

Cc: Peter Mason, Deputy Commissioner; Katie Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff; Crescentino Secchiaroli, Public Regional Director; David David, Director of Service Development and Support; William Abbott, State Fire Marshal

Date: June 10, 2020

RE: DDS Fire Safety Guidance During COVID-19

On March 15, 2020 Governor Lamont issued [Executive Order No 7C](#) which imposed a complete ban on all visitors to residential facilities for persons with intellectual disability, as defined in Connecticut General Statutes Section 17a-231(1).

As DDS move toward a reopening process, we have determined that conducting various fire safety testing inspection and maintenance, that was originally delayed in our [guidance issued on April 14, 2020](#), will begin again starting June 20, 2020.

These various fire safety testing, inspection and maintenance includes but is not limited to Fire Alarms, Fire Sprinklers, Kitchen Hood Cleaning and Suppression Systems, Fire Extinguishers as well as Fire Marshal Life Safety Code Inspections (by both the local and state fire marshals).

In the interest of safety for all the following parameters have been established:

- All testing inspection and maintenance shall be scheduled and by appointment only
- DDS providers will notify the contractor if a COVID-19 case occurs and will cancel the appointment.
- All contractors shall be screened prior to entrance into a building.
- All contractors shall provide their own PPE for their use.
- All contractors shall clean and disinfect all equipment touch points.
- All contractor companies shall notify the DDS provider of any cases of person under investigation (PUI) or positive COVID-19 testing results of any of their staff that have been in a DDS provider location within 14 days of their work.

General fire safety practices should be followed during this crisis, and a greater awareness should be demonstrated by all staff to ensure fire safety for all. Thank you.