

## **ATTN: COVID-19 SAFETY UPDATES FROM ALP**

Dear ALP Families:

As Autism Learning Partners (ALP) continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the health and safety of those involved in our services remains at the forefront of our priorities. It is our goal to continue to provide quality services to those in need of our support, while also adhering to the most current CDC guidelines and safety procedures available.

In December we rolled out a mandatory mask rule for all participants in sessions. While this isn't changing immediately, we are being advised that the influx of families and staff members receiving the COVID-19 vaccination are allowing us to make some changes to our procedures.

**Please note:** *ALP is not requiring that our staff be vaccinated, and we are not able to provide families with information regarding the vaccination status of our staff. Our staff may provide this information to you at their own discretion, if they so choose.*

### **What Is Changing?**

For our staff who have been fully vaccinated, they will now be able to start planning to help provide substitution sessions for a client whose main BT is out sick or on leave. We are also going to work on bringing back our field support model to allow for more staff support in family's homes as more and more staff become fully vaccinated.

Additionally, per the CDC, those who are fully vaccinated no longer need to quarantine for 10-days if they come into contact with someone who has COVID-19 as long as they are not showing any signs or symptoms.

This same policy will go for family members if they choose to share their vaccine information with our staff. Family members who are vaccinated are by no means required to share their personal health information, and it will in no way affect a client's ability to continue treatment once the quarantine period has passed should they choose to keep that information private.

### **What Isn't Changing?**

As our staff are going in and out of different homes, we will continue to mandate masks for all participants during sessions. Families who have been fully vaccinated and choose to share that information with our staff, may decide to stop wearing masks in their home during sessions, but our staff are expected to keep a face covering in place per CDC guidelines.

Staff are expected to continue to use their screening tool and ask safety questions prior to starting a session in a family's homes. This will remain in effect.

We will also continue to encourage hand washing at the beginning, ending, and throughout sessions when there are changes in session environments or in items being used during sessions.

Social distancing is also continuing to be attempted during sessions, when appropriate and possible for the safe provision of our care.

The CDC continues to advise that travel should remain essential only, and we are following that policy. Those who have traveled out of state or out of the country will need to continue to follow quarantine guidelines per the CDC. If and when this changes, we will update our procedures to match.

If you have any questions pertaining to ALP's updated safety protocols, please discuss them with your Behavior Analyst and/or Clinical Director.

We hope that this information will be well received, as we are all striving to our best to respond to the current environment, while also keeping services in place for those who need them. Please continue to do your part to support the safety of our care delivery by understanding our safety protocols and by implementing them in your home, just as you would expect in any healthcare service being administered in today's environment.

We all need to do our part to keep each other safe!

Sincerely,



Dan Matas  
Director of Operations and Compliance  
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**References:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>