



Department of Public Health

MAYOR
Dee Margo

CITY OF EL PASO HEALTH AUTHORITY ORDERS FOR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES, SENIOR LIVING FACILITY SETTINGS

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March 17, 2020

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

In lieu of presence of COVID-19 in our community, the Department of Public Health is issuing the following Health Authority Orders for every assisted living facility, senior living facility and adult day programs in El Paso County:

- Implement social distancing measures, e.g.:
 - Cancel large gatherings (e.g., group social events with 10 or more people).
 - Alter schedules to reduce mixing (e.g., stagger meal, activity, and arrival/departure times).
 - Limit programs with external staff.
- Daily upon arrival screen attendees/residents for temperature and respiratory symptoms.
- Staff should wear masks and wash hands thoroughly before entering and after exit of room of inhabitants.
- Consider suspension of new admissions to facilities.
- Implement short-term closures as needed (e.g., if COVID-19 cases in staff, residents or clients who live elsewhere) for cleaning and contact tracing.
- Implement longer-term closure or quarantine of facility if warranted, until situation resolves.
- Suspend visitor access but arrange for alternate means for family members to communicate (e.g., staff assist with phone calls or videoconferences with visitors).
- Exceptions for end-of-life family visits need to be considered, with limited access of visitors to other areas or people in the facility and these patients should be in a different areas to ensure other clients are not exposed to outside guests.

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Health Authority City/County of El Paso, TX

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