



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health

**HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE/ORDER**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

TO: All licensed Therapeutic Group Homes in Louisiana

FROM: LDH Office of Public Health  
Joseph Kanter, M.D.  
State Health Officer

RE: State Health Officer Order

DATE: July 27, 2021

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**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This Emergency Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until further notice from the State Health Officer.

**RATIONALE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY:**

On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States, effective January 27, 2020. Pursuant to the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*, a state of public health emergency resulting from the outbreak of "coronavirus disease 2019" ("COVID-19") was declared to exist in the entire State of Louisiana by Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020.

The COVID-19 outbreak in Louisiana continues. Measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public.

The State Health Officer expressly finds that the measures ordered herein are necessary to help control and prevent further spread of COVID-19, a communicable, contagious, and infectious disease that represent a serious and imminent threat to the public health.


**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me by L.R.S. 40:1 *et seq.*, particularly La. R.S. 40:4(A)(13) and La. R.S. 40:5(A)(2), I, Joseph Kanter, M.D., State Health Officer, do hereby issue the following emergency order:

- (1) **All Therapeutic Group Homes licensed in Louisiana are mandated and directed to reinstate universal masking, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, in the facility for all staff, residents and visitors. This is a temporary measure to protect the health and safety of all staff, residents and visitors due to the current surge of COVID-19 cases in Louisiana.**
  - (a) **Each Therapeutic Group Home provider shall revise its current policy and procedure to reflect this new requirement.**
  - (b) **Residents DO NOT need to wear a mask when they are in their own room without visitors, while eating or if the resident has a medical condition that precludes masking.**
- (2) **Any Therapeutic Group Home in Louisiana may impose stricter universal masking policies for all staff, residents and visitors than mandated in this Order if the facility chooses, provided that the facility has a policy and procedure in place to address such masking restrictions.**
- (3) **This State Health Officer Order replaces and supersedes any previously issued State Health Officer orders/notices to licensed therapeutic group homes regarding masking of all staff, residents and visitors.**

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 27, 2021.

  
Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH  
State Health Officer

Concurrence:

 7/27/21  
Dr. Courtney N. Phillips                      DATE  
LDH Secretary



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health

**HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE/ORDER**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TO:** All licensed Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DD)<sup>1</sup>  
All licensed Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs)

**FROM:** LDH Office of Public Health  
Joseph Kanter, M.D.  
State Health Officer *Joseph Kanter, M.D.*

**RE:** State Health Officer Order

**DATE:** July 27, 2021

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**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This Emergency Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until further notice from the State Health Officer.

**RATIONALE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY:**

On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States, effective January 27, 2020. Pursuant to the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*, a state of public health emergency resulting from the outbreak of "coronavirus disease 2019" ("COVID-19") was declared to exist in the entire State of Louisiana by Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020.

The COVID-19 outbreak in Louisiana continues. Measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public.

The State Health Officer expressly finds that the measures ordered herein are necessary to help control and prevent further spread of COVID-19, a communicable, contagious, and infectious disease that represent a serious and imminent threat to the public health.

<sup>1</sup> These facilities are also known as "intermediate care facilities for persons with intellectual disabilities."

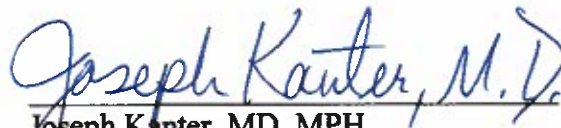
**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me by L.R.S. 40:1 et seq., particularly La. R.S. 40:4(A)(13) and La. R.S. 40:5(A)(2), I, Joseph Kanter, M.D., State Health Officer, do hereby issue the following emergency order:

**(1) All Intermediate Care Facilities for Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DDs) licensed in Louisiana that are NOT also licensed as nursing facilities and Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs) are mandated and directed to reinstate universal masking, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, in the facility for all staff, residents and visitors. This is a temporary measure to protect the health and safety of all staff, residents and visitors due to the current surge of COVID-19 cases in Louisiana.**

- (a) Each ICF/DD facility, and PRTF provider shall revise its current policy and procedure to reflect this new requirement.**
- (b) Residents DO NOT need to wear a mask when they are in their own room without visitors, while eating or if the resident has a medical condition that precludes masking.**

**(2) This State Health Officer Order replaces and supersedes any previously issued State Health Officer orders/notices to licensed ICF/DDs, and licensed PRTFs regarding masking of all staff, residents and visitors.**

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 27, 2021.

  
Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH  
State Health Officer

Concurrence:



Dr. Courtney N. Phillips  
LDH Secretary

  
DATE



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health

**HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE/ORDER**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

TO: All licensed Adult Residential Care Providers in Louisiana

FROM: LDH Office of Public Health  
Joseph Kanter, M.D.  
State Health Officer *Joseph Kanter, M.D.*

RE: State Health Officer Order

DATE: July 27, 2021

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**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This Emergency Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until further notice from the State Health Officer.

**RATIONALE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY:**

On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States, effective January 27, 2020. Pursuant to the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*, a state of public health emergency resulting from the outbreak of "coronavirus disease 2019" ("COVID-19") was declared to exist in the entire State of Louisiana by Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020.


The COVID-19 outbreak in Louisiana continues. Measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public.

The State Health Officer expressly finds that the measures ordered herein are necessary to help control and prevent further spread of COVID-19, a communicable, contagious, and infectious disease that represent a serious and imminent threat to the public health.

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me by L.R.S. 40:1 *et seq.*, particularly La. R.S. 40:4(A)(13) and La. R.S. 40:5(A)(2), I, Joseph Kanter, M.D., State Health Officer, do hereby issue the following emergency order:

- (1) All Adult Residential Care Providers licensed in Louisiana are mandated and directed to reinstate universal masking, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, in the facility for all staff, residents and visitors. This is a temporary measure to protect the health and safety of all staff, residents and visitors due to the current surge of COVID-19 cases in Louisiana.**
  - (a) Each Adult Residential Care Provider shall revise its current policy and procedure to reflect this new requirement.**
  - (b) Residents DO NOT need to wear a mask when they are in their own room without visitors, while eating or if the resident has a medical condition that precludes masking.**
- (2) Any Adult Residential Care Provider in Louisiana may impose stricter universal masking policies for all staff, residents and visitors than mandated in this Order if the facility chooses, provided that the facility has a policy and procedure in place to address such masking restrictions.**
- (3) This State Health Officer Order replaces and supersedes any previously issued State Health Officer orders/notices to licensed adult residential care providers regarding masking of all staff, residents and visitors.**

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 27, 2021.

  
Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH  
State Health Officer

Concurrence:



Dr. Courtney N. Phillips  
LDH Secretary

7/27/21

DATE



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health

**HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE/ORDER**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TO:** Adult Day Care (ADC) Providers  
Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Providers  
PACE Providers

**FROM:** LDH Office of Public Health  
Joseph Kanter, M.D.  
State Health Officer

**RE:** State Health Officer Order

**DATE:** July 27, 2021

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**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This Emergency Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until further notice from the State Health Officer.

**RATIONALE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY:**

On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States, effective January 27, 2020. Pursuant to the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*, a state of public health emergency resulting from the outbreak of "coronavirus disease 2019" ("COVID-19") was declared to exist in the entire State of Louisiana by Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020.

The COVID-19 outbreak in Louisiana continues. Measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public.

The State Health Officer expressly finds that the measures ordered herein are necessary to help control and prevent further spread of COVID-19, a communicable, contagious, and infectious disease that represent a serious and imminent threat to the public health.

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me by L.R.S. 40:1 et seq., particularly La. R.S. 40:4(A)(13) and La. R.S. 40:5(A)(2), I, Joseph Kanter, M.D., State Health Officer, do hereby issue the following emergency order:

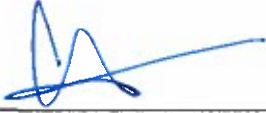
- (1) All ADC, ADHC and PACE providers in Louisiana are mandated and directed to reinstate universal masking, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, in their facility for all staff, clients/participants and visitors. This is a temporary measure to protect the health and safety of all staff, clients/participants and visitors due to the current surge of COVID-19 cases in Louisiana.**
  - (a) A Client/Participant DOES NOT need to wear a mask when they are eating or if the client/participant has a medical condition that precludes masking.**
- (2) Any ADC, ADHC, or PACE provider may impose stricter policies than mandated in this Order if the facility chooses, provided that the facility have a policy and procedure in place to address such restrictions.**
- (3) This State Health Officer Order replaces and supersedes any previously issued State Health Officer orders/notices to ADC, ADHC, and PACE providers regarding masking of all staff, clients/participants and visitors.**
- (4) This State Health Officer Order does not mandate that any ADC, ADHC or PACE provider re-open.**
- (5) This State Health Officer Order does not mandate that any client or participant return to an ADC, ADHC or PACE Center.**
- (6) Any ADC, ADHC, or PACE provider that provides transportation to clients/participants shall follow the same protocols as identified in Number (1) above while any clients, participants and staff are in the vehicle.**
- (7) If local ordinances and/or COVID-19 restrictions are more stringent than this order, the ADC, ADHC, and PACE providers shall follow any local ordinances and/or COVID-19 restrictions.**

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 27, 2021.

  
Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH  
State Health Officer



Concurrence:



7/27/21

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Dr. Courtney N. Phillips  
LDH Secretary

DATE



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health

**HEALTHCARE FACILITY NOTICE/ORDER**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

TO: All licensed Nursing Facilities in Louisiana

FROM: LDH Office of Public Health  
Joseph Kanter, M.D.  
State Health Officer

RE: State Health Officer Order

DATE: July 26, 2021

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**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This Emergency Order shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until further notice from the State Health Officer.

**RATIONALE AND LEGAL AUTHORITY:**

On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern" (PHEIC). On January 31, 2020, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency (PHE) for the United States, effective January 27, 2020. Pursuant to the Louisiana Health Emergency Powers Act, R.S. 29:760, *et seq.*, a state of public health emergency resulting from the outbreak of "coronavirus disease 2019" ("COVID-19") was declared to exist in the entire State of Louisiana by Proclamation Number 25 JBE 2020.

The COVID-19 outbreak in Louisiana continues. Measures are necessary to protect the health and safety of the public.

The State Health Officer expressly finds that the measures ordered herein are necessary to help control and prevent further spread of COVID-19, a communicable, contagious, and infectious disease that represent a serious and imminent threat to the public health.

**NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers vested in me by L.R.S. 40:1 *et seq.*, particularly La. R.S. 40:4(A)(13) and La. R.S. 40:5(A)(2), I, Joseph Kanter, M.D., State Health Officer, do hereby issue the following emergency order:



- (1) All Nursing Facilities licensed in Louisiana are mandated and directed to reinstate universal masking, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status, in the nursing facility for all staff, residents and visitors. This is a temporary measure to protect the health and safety of all staff, residents and visitors due to the current surge of COVID-19 cases in Louisiana.**
  - (a) Each nursing facility shall revise its current policy and procedure to reflect this new requirement.**
  - (b) Residents DO NOT need to wear a mask when they are in their own room without visitors, while eating or if the resident has a medical condition that precludes masking.**
- (2) Any licensed-only (i.e., not certified for Medicare/Medicaid) nursing facility in Louisiana may impose stricter universal masking policies for all staff, residents and visitors than mandated in this Order if the facility chooses, provided that the facility has a policy and procedure in place to address such masking restrictions.**
- (3) This State Health Officer Order replaces and supersedes any previously issued State Health Officer orders/notices to licensed nursing facilities regarding masking of all staff, residents and visitors.**

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 26, 2021.



Joseph Kanter, MD, MPH  
State Health Officer

Concurrence:

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips  
LDH Secretary