

From: **Williams, Edwina** <edwina.williams@dss.virginia.gov>  
Date: Wed, Oct 28, 2020 at 5:09 PM  
Subject: ALF-Final Point Prevalent Survey (PPS)  
To: <DSS\_LICENSING@listserv.cov.virginia.gov>

The attached file is being sent to assisted living facilities from the Virginia Department of Social Services Email Distribution Service.

**\*\*\*Please do not reply to this email.\*\*\***

---

To unsubscribe from the DSS\_LICENSING list, click the following link:  
[https://listserv.cov.virginia.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DSS\\_LICENSING&A=1](https://listserv.cov.virginia.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DSS_LICENSING&A=1)

**SCROLL DOWN TO VIEW ATTACHMENT**



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

October 28, 2020

Dear Assisted Living Facility Administrators:

In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen specific populations bear the highest burden of illness and death. This includes the elderly and those living in a congregate setting. Early in the Commonwealth's response, Governor Northam established the Long-Term Care Task Force (LCTF) to address this matter with a focus on skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, and other similar congregate care settings.

More specifically, the Governor committed state resources to conduct a baseline (one-time) facility wide testing, also called a point prevalence survey (PPS), for such congregate care settings. The intent of a PPS is to identify all individuals who may be infected with COVID-19 at any one time, including both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. This allows the facility to take timely action to isolate, quarantine, and implement other infection control measures to mitigate the spread of this illness.

The Virginia National Guard (VANG) has partnered with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to conduct this testing for long-term care facilities. In addition, through the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has current funding to allow full-service (turnkey) providers to conduct such baseline testing without any charge to the facility. However, these resources will only be available for a short time as no decisions have been made on the federal level to extend the CRF performance period, and the VANG is currently expected to conclude their current deployment soon.

Staff from VDH, the Department of Social Services (DSS), and the VANG have made repeated attempts to contact facilities that have not yet taken advantage of this offer for testing. ***This communication is to make you aware that all such attempts to arrange baseline testing will conclude on November 7, 2020.***

If you have already taken advantage of the opportunity to have a baseline PPS, we thank you for your efforts. If you have not, we strongly urge you to take advantage of the opportunity to conduct a PPS at your facility. To arrange a baseline PPS, please contact your local health department **before November 7, 2020**. Please direct any questions about a baseline PPS or how such efforts are conducted, to [covid19pps@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:covid19pps@vdh.virginia.gov) or [covidquestions@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:covidquestions@dss.virginia.gov). Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Parham Jaber, MD, MPH  
Chief Deputy Commissioner  
Virginia Department of Health

Sincerely,

Tara D. Ragland, MSA, NHA  
Director, Division of Licensing Programs  
Department of Social Services