



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON  
DIRECTOR

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** June 25, 2020  
**TO:** Nursing Homes  
**FROM:** Robert Gordon, Director<sup>RG</sup>  
**SUBJECT:** Emergency Order for nursing home testing

On June 15, 2020, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued an emergency order requiring nursing homes to conduct COVID-19 diagnostic testing for all staff by July 3, 2020. MDHHS appreciates the partnership of nursing facilities in moving forward with implementation of this order. This communication contains several updates:

To support effective implementation, the State of Michigan will reimburse nursing homes for the cost of all staff COVID-19 tests that are not covered by insurance pursuant to the attached guidance.

Robust testing of staff and residents is necessary to help control and prevent the spread of COVID-19. At the same time, MDHHS understands challenges around full implementation of staff testing requirements statewide. While MDHHS continues to urge facilities in Regions 1-5 and 7 to complete testing of their staff as soon as possible subsequent to June 15, MDHHS will not engage in enforcement actions with respect to testing requirements for nursing facilities that come into compliance by July 17, 2020. Specifically, nursing facilities in Regions 1-5 and 7 will face no enforcement if they test their staff once before July 17.

Nursing homes that need state support to conduct staff and resident testing must [submit a request](#) via email to [MDHHS-LTCRequests@michigan.gov](mailto:MDHHS-LTCRequests@michigan.gov). Initial requests for such assistance must be received by July 6, 2020. Nursing homes that have not been contacted by MDHHS about a previously submitted request should resubmit to this mailbox.

All other requirements of this emergency order remain in full force and effect and enforcement actions will be taken for failure to comply with any other requirements outlined in the Emergency Order.

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