

1-28-21

To: Homeless Services Providers

Re: Vaccine Access and Testing Strategy Update from CCEH

This memo summarizes CCEH's recent learning about the state's COVID response in the following areas, and updates information shared previously via email.

1. COVID Testing Frequency for Shelters

DPH and the Governor's office recommended earlier this month that test providers (FQHCs, hospitals, etc) working with shelters increase the frequency of testing in congregate shelters up to once per week. Given resource constraints, it is likely test providers will face difficulties meeting this goal. Please alert DOH and CCEH if your shelter has difficulty accessing or arranging weekly testing for clients in your facility.

2. Vaccine Access for Congregate Settings

Vaccine distribution and scheduling of congregate site clinics are underway, with several shelters reporting to DOH and CCEH that their staff and clients have been vaccinated or are scheduled within the next couple of weeks.

This week, DPH distributed definitions, policies, and a form to put in new requests for VAMS access and on-site vaccine clinics: <https://cceh.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Vaccine-Rollout-for-Congregate-Settings-Facilities-1.25.21-002.pdf>

The above pdf includes at the bottom of page two a link to a form for requesting new VAMS access OR assistance with scheduling an on-site clinic. Note: use of the form is not required unless you are initiating a new request for either VAMS access or an on-site clinic.

We encourage you to share these documents with any provider partners who may have been missed by DOH or CCEH's outreach to date.