

ATTN: COVID-19 UPDATES FROM ALP – July 2021



Dear ALP Families:

At Autism Learning Partners (ALP) we are monitoring the latest COVID-19 guidance closely as the health and safety of those involved in our services remains at the forefront of our priorities. There have been a lot of changes across the U.S. recently, and we want to ensure that we are responding appropriately and communicating our changes timely.

We are strongly encouraging all staff to be vaccinated, but we understand that this is a personal choice. We will not tolerate disrespect from staff or families regarding vaccinations, and we will not discriminate against any groups who choose not to be vaccinated. According to CDC guidelines, those who have been vaccinated are allowed to interact with others without a mask, but those who are not vaccinated should still be wearing one. If the eligible members of your household decide to become vaccinated and are willing to share this information with your assigned staff, then we will no longer require masks to be worn during sessions by family members.

We will also allow our fully vaccinated staff to stop wearing masks during sessions if there are no funding source or local requirements that conflict. If you have concerns about staff removing their mask in your home, please contact your Clinical Director. Please keep in mind, as written in the Client Partnership Agreement, the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including masks, is a personal choice and may be deemed necessary by our employee for various reasons given the nature of our services (e.g. to avoid infection, to avoid transfer of saliva or other bodily fluids, etc.). Please do not take offense if your staff continue to insist on wearing PPE in your home as it is to be used as a precautionary measure to keep everyone safe.

At our clinics and offices, we will still be requiring masks to be worn by all entering regardless of vaccination status, and masks will continue to be required in all public and group areas, including the lobby, hallways, group rooms, etc. We will be allowing vaccinated staff to remove their masks in private treatment rooms during 1:1 sessions. Caregivers may also remove their mask in private treatment rooms if they are fully vaccinated.

In accordance with the CDC guidelines, we will continue to ask screening questions prior to the start of any services. A “yes” answer for families who have been fully vaccinated, and wish to share this information, will no longer constitute the need for a cancellation as long as all are healthy and not presenting signs or symptoms. We are also asking that all follow the latest CDC and State guidance regarding travel restrictions. At this time, only fully vaccinated individuals can travel without needing to quarantine afterward.

If you have any questions pertaining to ALP’s response to COVID-19, our safety protocols, please discuss them with your Behavior Analyst and/or Clinical Director.

We are hopeful that things will continue to progress toward normalcy and we can continue to lighten our protocols when it is deemed safe to do so. We sincerely appreciate your assistance in this process in following our policies and helping to keep all participating in services safe.

Sincerely,

Dan Matas
Director of Compliance
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