



Eric J. Holcomb  
Governor

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State Health Commissioner

## Notice to Nursing Facilities and Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) Providers

1. Nursing Facility Staff and NEMT drivers must follow CDC guidelines around appropriate PPE and communication of resident COVID status at all times.
2. Driver must disinfect vehicle after each resident transfer as per CDC instructions.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/disinfecting-transport-vehicles.html>
3. Appropriate PPE is mandatory for NEMT drivers and must be worn properly at all times during the transfer of a resident. Masks must meet CDC requirements which can be found <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>. If medical masks are available, they can be worn by drivers. If a driver is wearing a mask inappropriately, or there are infection control, safety, or professional issues to report, please contact Southeastrans Inc. at 1-888-833-4154. If a driver does not have a proper mask, they should reach out to Southeastrans in advance to request assistance in securing PPE. It is Southeastrans responsibility to assure that drivers have appropriate PPE.
4. A driver who has been exposed must [quarantine](#) for at least 14 days regardless of testing results, and may return to work on day 15 provided they do not develop symptoms and have not had a positive test result during quarantine. A driver who has tested positive must [isolate](#) for a minimum of 10 days if they have no symptoms, or if they develop symptoms at least 10 days from symptom onset and they must have improved symptoms and be fever free for at least 24 hours (without the use of fever reducing medication). Drivers must follow CDC guidelines at all times if this information is updated as more is learned about the virus.
5. If a driver has tested positive for COVID-19 any facility that they have transported residents from in the two days prior to their positive test (if asymptomatic) or the two days prior to symptom onset must be notified by Southeastrans within 4 hours of learning of the positive test.
6. Nursing facilities are mandated to report a resident's COVID status to NEMT drivers prior to a run.

To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers.



7. Drivers of nursing home residents are required to undergo weekly COVID-19 testing. The driver must be tested for COVID-19 by the facility using a rapid test if available. Alternatively, if available in the area, the driver can choose to be tested at a local health department or state Optum site. The test results would be valid for the day of testing and for the next 6 calendar days. If the nursing facility cannot provide the test at the time of pickup, the trip should still occur. Drivers who have had, and recovered, by COVID-19 in the 90 days prior to the run are exempt from the testing requirement. Similarly, drivers who have received a complete series of an FDA approved COVID-19 vaccine are exempt from the testing requirement.
8. If a driver tests positive on point of care test they will inform SET immediately and SET will work with its provider network to satisfy the trip with another driver that has already been tested.
9. It is the responsibility of Southeastrans to report the test results to the state department of health using the RedCap point of care test form.
10. Residents to be transported by NEMT must also be tested prior to the run. The test results would be valid for the day of testing and for the next 6 calendar days. If the resident's test is positive transport should go by BLS ambulance and not an NEMT. Residents who have had, and recovered, from COVID-19 in the 90 days prior to the run are exempt. Similarly, residents who have received a complete series of an FDA approved COVID-19 vaccine are exempt from the testing requirement.
11. If able to be done safely, drivers should not recirculate air in their vehicles and should crack windows during transport to increase air flow through the vehicle.

The following guidelines are to go into effect beginning December 14<sup>th</sup>. We will communicate any changes to this as they occur.

Sincerely,

Matthew Foster, JD, Assistant Commissioner & Special Counsel  
Consumer Services & Health Care Regulation Commission