

Update to March 24, 2020 Communication regarding essential monitoring functions

Dear Residential Child Care Provider,

On March 24, 2020, you were notified that DFPS would temporarily use a different process to determine whether there were COVID-19 concerns at a facility prior to making 24-hour awake night supervision monitoring visits.

This pause allowed us time to set up processes to identify and track facilities where there is risk of exposure to COVID-19. Effective immediately, DFPS will resume unannounced 24-hour awake night supervision monitoring visits without prior contact to the facility. DFPS night staff will no longer call ahead prior to arriving at a facility but once onsite will ask a series of questions to determine if there is risk of exposure prior to entering the facility. If risk is identified, DFPS night staff will return to their vehicles and conduct a virtual visit at that time. If no risk is identified, the unannounced visit will occur.

Residential contractors may conduct verbal health assessments of DFPS staff prior to entry into the facility.

Please contact your contract manager if you have any specific questions or concerns. If you have general questions or concerns, please send them to the residential mailbox at [DFPSRESIDENT@dfps.state.tx.us](mailto:DFPSRESIDENT@dfps.state.tx.us). We will post this email on our DFPS Public Coronavirus Resources webpage, and will periodically update it with general questions that we receive in the provider mailbox. We will of course also continue to provide you additional information and guidance as it becomes available.

Thank you for the continued support and care provided to children and families during this pandemic.

Cristina R. Guerrero  
Residential Contracts Director