



Maryland  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
**MEMORANDUM**

**To: Nursing Home Administrators**  
**From: Frances B. Phillips, Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services**  
**Subject: Universal COVID-19 Testing Compliance**  
**Date: June 17, 2020**

On April 29, 2020, Governor Larry Hogan issued an Executive Order for universal testing of all residents and staff of Maryland nursing homes. Every Nursing Home in the state was provided specimen collection kits. The State covered 100% of the cost of processing all these PCR tests, over 58,000 tests in total. The deadline for Nursing Homes to complete specimen submission to the lab was June 6, 2020.

As of June 15, 2020, documented compliance with the Governor's Executive Order stands at 70% for universal COVID-19 testing in our nursing homes across the state. Compliance with universal testing is mandatory. Facilities who fail to comply are subject to Civil Money Penalties.

Your immediate attention is required:

1. If your nursing home has not submitted a roster of residents and staff as previously requested, do so immediately.
2. All nursing homes will receive a secure email containing test results for each individual listed on the resident and staff rosters. Nursing Homes are required to compare the roster with test results received directly from the laboratory to make sure the demographic information on roster and lab results match.
3. Any errors in the spelling of names or dates of birth must be corrected. For any name or date of birth error in the lab results, the Nursing Home is required to immediately contact the laboratory to correct the information. If errors are found in the roster, resubmit the roster to MDH immediately using this secure link [Secure Roster and Risk Assessment Link](#). All errors must be corrected by **June 19, 2020** to avoid applicable penalties for non-compliance.
4. By 6:00 pm June 19, 2020, every facility Administrator is required to submit an attestation as to the status of the facility's universal testing, providing the number of tests completed for all residents and all staff. Facilities which fail to comply are subject to Civil Money Penalties. This attestation may be completed using the following link [SNF Attestation](#).

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Eric Shope at [eric.shope@maryland.gov](mailto:eric.shope@maryland.gov) and Sha Brown at [sha.brown1@maryland.gov](mailto:sha.brown1@maryland.gov)