



### Introduction

Pursuant to [MD HEALTH GENERAL §18-404\(b\)\(2\)](#), the Maryland Health Care Commission is advising all assisted living facilities with 10 beds or more that all staff should be informed of the health risks of not receiving an influenza vaccine, and, to the extent possible, all staff should be vaccinated against influenza by December 1, 2021, unless excused by MD HEALTH GENERAL § 18-404(e).

Assisted living facilities are strongly encouraged to offer vaccination to their staff and are required to maintain documentation of vaccination or declination for the annual MHCC influenza survey that will be conducted in April 2022. All assisted living facilities with 10 or more beds will be required to complete the online survey beginning in April 2022. Please maintain documentation of all staff vaccination, as well as signed declination forms for those excused by §18-404(e).

The Maryland Assisted Living Staff Influenza Vaccination Survey reporting period runs from October 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022

Maryland assisted living residences with 10 or more beds are required to report data on all paid full-time and part-time employees working in the facility at least one day between October 1, 2021–March 31, 2022 who received any licensed influenza vaccine<sup>1</sup> (on-site or off-site) or choose not to be vaccinated, and the reason why. **The completed online survey must be submitted to the MHCC by May 15, 2022.**

Facility-specific data collected through the 2021-2022 survey will be published on the Commission's **Maryland Quality Reports** [website](#).

#### Important Points:

To prepare for this survey, please maintain a file with your employees' name and proof of vaccination for the current flu season. If an employee declines to receive an influenza vaccination, please have the employee complete the declination form and save in your employee files.

If you have questions regarding these reporting requirements Julie Beard (Deppe) at [Julie.deppe@maryland.gov](mailto:Julie.deppe@maryland.gov).

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<sup>1</sup> For the 2021-2022 U.S. influenza season, CDC and its vaccines advisory committee (ACIP) recommend that providers use any licensed, age-appropriate influenza vaccine (Inactivated influenza vaccines (IIV), Recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV), or live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV4) with no preference expressed for one vaccine over another. Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2021-2022.htm>



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Part A: Assisted Living Residence Identification and Contact Information

- 1. Assisted Living Residence Name
2. Assisted Living ID
3. Name of Person Completing Survey
4. Title of Person Completing Survey
5. Telephone Number
6. Email address

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Part B: Flu Vaccination Questions

1. Total number of paid full-time and part-time assisted living staff working in your facility at least one day between October 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022.

Calculating the number to be reported:

- A. Number of employees on staff October 1, 2021 (full and part time)
B. Number of newly hired employees October 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022

Add A+B to get the total number of paid full-time and part-time employees to be reported

2. Of the total number of paid full-time and part-time assisted living staff listed in question 1, provide the number who received any influenza vaccine on-site or off-site (and provided written documentation).

3. Of the total number of paid full-time and part-time assisted living staff listed in question 1, provide the number who did NOT receive influenza vaccine due to medical contraindications.

Note: in order to qualify as a medical reason for not receiving flu vaccine, the individual must have a documented medical contraindication diagnosed by a physician or requiring medical treatment such as a severe egg allergy, severe reaction to any vaccine component, severe reaction after a previous dose of influenza vaccine, or a history of Guillian-Barre Syndrome after vaccination.

4. Of the total number of paid full-time and part-time assisted living staff listed in question 1, provide the number who did NOT receive influenza vaccine due to religious objections.

5. Of the total number of paid full-time and part-time assisted living staff listed in question 1, provide the number who did NOT receive influenza vaccine due to other objections or no documentation provided.



6. What strategies does your assisted living residence employ to raise awareness and provide access to influenza vaccination for employees and others working in the facility? (Check all that apply)

- Provide vaccinations onsite
- Distribution of educational material (including fliers, posters, leaflets, etc.) for influenza vaccination education
- Educational presentations to staff on the importance of influenza vaccination

Select one option from the three choices below:

- Provide influenza vaccination free of charge to employees
- Provide influenza vaccination at reduced cost to employees
- Not applicable

7. What methods does your facility use to document influenza vaccination and declinations among employees? (Check all that apply)

- Employees required to provide written proof of off-site vaccination
- Employees required to provide physician documentation to support medical contraindications
- Employees sign a form when declining for medical contraindications
- Employees sign a form when declining for religious reasons
- Employees sign a form when declining for other reasons
- Documentation (if any items above are checked) is kept with other employee records
- No documentation is required

**Mandatory vaccination policies:** For the purposes of this survey, a mandatory vaccination policy is defined as a policy that requires assisted living staff vaccination as a condition of employment. Please check the box that best describes your facility’s current position on mandatory vaccination of assisted living staff:

8. Mandatory **Influenza** vaccination policy.

- My facility has implemented a mandatory employee influenza vaccination policy.
- My facility does not have a mandatory employee influenza vaccination policy but plans to implement one for the future flu season.
- My facility has no immediate plans to implement a mandatory employee influenza vaccination policy.

9. Mandatory **COVID19** vaccination policy:

- My facility has implemented a mandatory employee COVID19 vaccination policy for 2021-2022.
- My facility does not have a mandatory employee COVID19 vaccination policy but plans to implement one in the future.
- My facility has no immediate plans to implement a mandatory employee COVID19 vaccination policy.

Comments: