



Department of Health

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Governor

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Commissioner

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

November 15, 2021

DHDTC DAL 21-11
NH- DAL 21-25
DAL: DHCBS 21-13
DAL #21-32

Dear Chief Executive Officers, Nursing Home Operators and Administrators, and Adult Care Facility Administrators, and Home Care and Hospice Administrators:

The purpose of this letter is to inform covered entities that beginning **November 22, 2021**, all covered entities must ensure that covered "personnel" under the Department's August 26, 2021 – Prevention of COVID-19 Transmission by Covered Entities Emergency Regulation who were previously granted religious exemptions have documentation of either a first dose COVID-19 vaccination or a valid medical exemption. Facilities should have a process in place to consider reasonable accommodation requests from covered personnel based on sincerely held religious beliefs consistent with applicable Federal and State laws, including Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) laws such as Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and NYS Human Rights Law, and their applicable guidance.

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/11/faqs-for-10-nycrr-section-2.61-11-08-21.pdf>

Questions or concerns concerning this DAL can be addressed to hospinfo@health.ny.gov, covidnursinghomeinfo@health.ny.gov, covidadultcareinfo@health.ny.gov, or covidhomecareinfo@health.ny.gov based on the specific covered entity.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Treacy
Deputy Director
Office of Primary Care and Health Systems
Management