The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality

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TO: Agency and Non-Agency Based Providers Providing Home Care Services in Massachusetts

FROM: Elizabeth Kelley, MPH, MBA, Director Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality

DATE: February 24, 2022

RE: Compliance Deadline for COVID-19 Vaccinations for Certain Staff Providing Home Care Services in Massachusetts Extended to March 21, 2022.

On January 6, 2022, the Commissioner of Public Health issued an Order requiring that certain programs, facilities, and personnel subject to COVID-19 vaccination requirements as itemized and appearing in applicable regulation, must ensure that all eligible personnel have received a COVID-19 additional dose or booster vaccination by February 28, 2022. Order available here: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/order-of-the-commissioner-of-public-health-covid-19-public-health-emergency-order-no-2022-01/download>

This notice is to inform you that the deadline for compliance with this requirement is being extended to March 21, 2022, for the following individuals providing in-home, direct care who are employed by an agency that is contracted or subcontracted with the Commonwealth, including:

* Home health agencies enrolled in the MassHealth program
* Home care agencies providing services under the state’s home care program
* Continuous Skilled Nursing agencies enrolled in the MassHealth program
* Group Adult Foster Care agencies enrolled in the MassHealth program
* Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) and Moving Forward Plan (MFP) Waiver Providers enrolled in the MassHealth Program

The extension of the deadline for compliance to March 21, 2022, also applies to independent, non-agency-based home care workers contracted with the state providing in-home, direct care including:

* Independent Nurses enrolled in the MassHealth program
* Personal Care Attendants (PCAs) providing services through the MassHealth program
* Consumer Directed Care (CDC) workers providing services under EOEA’s self-directed program.
* Self-employed/self-directed workers providing services in the MFP Waiver Program.

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs will issue updated guidance reflecting the extension of the deadline for compliance to March 21, 2022.