



Member Connection
November 10, 2021

Agenda

COVID Updates

Vaccine Mandates

State & Policy

WAFCA Happenings

COVID Updates

- ▶ 7-day average: 2,295 ↑ and 1,029 ↑ hospitalized
- ▶ Total vaccinated: One dose - 58.1%; Fully vaccinated - 55.1%
- ▶ DHS Update ([11.08.21](#))
 - ▶ Vaccination starting for children ages 5-11
- ▶ OSHA ETS Issued (Release, [11.04.21](#)) - Nov 6 temporarily stayed
- ▶ CMS Interim Final Rule ([Rule](#) / [FAQ](#) / [Analysis](#))
- ▶ \$100 million in additional stimulus grants for [broadband](#)

OSHA ETS

- January 4 deadline: “Companies must ensure their workers are either fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by January 4, 2022, or that they produce a negative Covid test at least once a week. The rule will take effect as soon as it’s published in the *Federal Register*.”
- Employers must provide PTO for vaccinations: “Employers must pay workers for the time it takes to get vaccinated and provide sick leave for workers to recover from any side effects.”
- Employers don’t need to pay for testing: “In a move that appears designed to push workers to choose vaccinations over testing, the rule does not require employers to pay for or provide testing to workers who decline the vaccine. However, collective bargaining agreements or other circumstances may dictate otherwise in some cases.”
- Unvaccinated must wear masks: “Unvaccinated workers must also wear face coverings while on the job.” (Src: NPR, [11.04.21](#))
- [National Council of Nonprofits Summary](#)

CMS Interim Final Rule on COVID-19 Health Care Staff Vaccination

- ▶ At this stage the mandate is limited to persons employed by certain enumerated healthcare providers and suppliers, all of which are subject to Medicare or Medicaid “conditions of participation, conditions of coverage, or requirements for participation” (the Vax List).
- ▶ State-licensed, community-based providers are generally excluded at this time. Explicitly referenced as exclusions: group home, assisted living, home and community-based services.
- ▶ Providers may still be impacted if:
 - ▶ Staff contracted activity in impacted Vax List facilities. What about staff visiting clients in hospitals if the referral/contact is not under the auspices of the hospital?
 - ▶ Operations co-located in an impacted facility? (Seems like yes, but would not extend to the whole organization - only those staff operating at co-located site?)
 - ▶ State DHS decides to enact regulation to extend application of mandate to other Medicaid providers (No indication that DHS is moving in that direction)

State & Federal Policy

Wisconsin Legislature

- ▶ Senate passed redistricting maps on Tuesday and Assembly will act tomorrow. Governor has promised veto.
- ▶ CAN Leg Council Bills (SB [416](#), [417](#), [418](#)) & subsidized guardianship payments ([SB 491](#)) - passed Senate and ready for Assembly action

US Congress

- ▶ Infrastructure Bill Enacted (Gov Release, [11.08.21](#))
- ▶ More Federal Updates - See latest edition of Social Current ([11.08.21](#))

WAFCA & Other Happenings

- TODAY - WAFCA-CE: *Foster Care & Adoption Competent Practice* (10AM-12PM)
- TODAY - WAFCA Impact Data
- 11.12 - WAFCA Annual Member Meeting *VIRTUAL*
- 11.17 - WAFCA Family First Discussion (3PM; meeting details)

- ▶ 12.01 - WCHSA Summit on Complex Needs (more info coming soon)
- ▶ 12.02-12.03 - WCHSA Fall Conference ([registration](#))

WAFCA Virtual Member Meeting



10AM-2:30PM, Via Zoom ([Register today](#))

Featuring interactive discussions and engagement with leaders in the field:

- Wisconsin Workforce Trends from a Human Services Perspective
Dale Knapp, Forward Analytics
- 1% Better
Dr. Mechele Shipman, Anu Family Services
- Dialogue on Future of HS Workforce
- DHS Secretary-Designee **Karen Timberlake**

[Full Agenda](#)

