



Residential Alternate Care Site (RACS) Admission Criteria and Referral Process



California continues to experience increasing numbers of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations. With COVID-19 positive cases surging, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has authorized the use of Residential Alternate Care Sites (RACS) to accommodate individuals requiring residential level of care and intermittent incidental medical support for COVID-19 positive individuals, including but not limited:

- Existing residents of a licensed Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) or Adult Residential Facility (ARF) that can no longer care for them due to staffing shortages;
- Existing residents whose needs are beyond the level of care provided by the “existing” facility;
- Existing residents whose needs are beyond the level of care provided by the “existing” facility and is clinically appropriate to be admitted to a Residential Alternate Care Site instead of to a hospital;
- Existing residents whose needs are beyond the level of care provided by the “existing” facility, was admitted to a hospital, and is now at a level of care appropriate to discharge to a Residential Alternate Care Site;
- Any resident that meets criteria from a community setting such as a hospital that does not currently reside in a licensed Residential Care Facility.

Placement of Individuals Requirements - individuals should be carefully chosen regardless of site of referral. Individuals with COVID-19 can be referred to the Residential Alternate Care Sites by contacting the Residential Alternate Care Site Coordinator. (Information located below)

- The individual’s primary care physician and if indicated, responsible party must be apprised of the plan. The decision-making process may vary depending on the prevalence of COVID-19 in the surrounding community as well as local hospital capacity. The Department has ultimate approval of placement into a residential alternate care site.
- Public health officials may issue state or region-specific guidance that differ from this guidance
- Any individual who appears acutely ill with concerns for a possible emergency condition should be referred to the hospital via the 911 system.
- The contracted facility must enter into a temporary admission agreement that includes 3rd Party Payor language for individuals who are not a current ASCP resident.

Note: Residential Alternate Care Sites cannot offer the same breadth of services as a skilled nursing or acute care hospital and will not be able to perform the close monitoring needed if an individual’s condition deteriorates.



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All services outlined for residential facilities plus:

- Level III-Health related assistance that includes personal activities of daily living. This level may include residents who also require the occasional services of an appropriate skilled professional due to chronic health problems and returning residents recovering from illness, injury, or treatment that required placement in facilities providing higher levels of care.
- Non-emergency medical transportation
- Monitoring by a nurse in person or via tele conference.
- Assistance with oxygen

Reimbursement Rate CDSS will pay Residential Alternate Care Sites to temporarily house COVID-19 positive individuals in the following manner:

- \$700 per day for each individual placed under a State contract.
- \$300 per day for contracted empty beds.

Process for Referral/Placement

To refer an individual for placement, you must have the following documents and information assembled into a referral packet for the Residential Alternate Care Site Coordinator to process:

- Needs and Services plan with all needs identified (diet, health conditions, medications etc.)
- Detailed Discharge plan
- LIC 602 Physician's Report with POLST
- COVID-19 positivity information
 - Date tested
 - Result date
- Relocation plan (if referring from a CCL-licensed facility)
- Detailed and **verifiable** exit plan from the RACS (if not referring from a CCL-licensed facility)
 - Location the Resident will return to once Covid-19 cleared
 - Transportation information for return
 - Point of Contact (family or responsible party) that includes name and contact information.

If you have an individual that you believe meets the criteria for placement in a Residential Alternate Care Site, please contact the Residential Alternate Care Site Coordinator at the following telephone number (916) 917-3040 to discuss the case for placement.

Once it has been determined that the individual is appropriate for placement you will be asked to email the above placement referral packet to

CCLASPCrisisResponse@dss.ca.gov