

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 240, MS 2-13
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TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 654-1897



January 13, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

California's regional centers serve people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Regional centers utilize contracted providers to care for their clients. The purpose of this letter is to clarify that these providers' employees who provide direct care, in-home-support and other health and developmental services are "health care workers" pursuant to the State of California's [Vaccination Plan \(https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/#When-can-I-get-vaccinated\)](https://covid19.ca.gov/vaccines/#When-can-I-get-vaccinated), and thus are prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination within Phase 1A.

These contracted service providers include, but are not limited to:

- Intermediate care facilities for persons who need non-continuous nursing supervision and supportive care
- Other licensed adult residential facilities
- Congregate living health facilities
- Home health care and in-home supportive services
- Community health workers, including promotoras
- Supported living and independent living services providers
- Family home agencies and their subcontractors
- Other in-home service providers, including individuals such as respite workers, clinical staff, applied behavioral analysis providers, staff providing independent living skills training, and staff providing Early Start services

The eligibility of these employees can be ascertained by a letter from their employer, as defined above, verifying their employment as listed above.

We hope this letter clarifies the eligibility of these essential health care staff for the COVID-19 vaccine pursuant to Phase 1A of the State's Plan, and thereby assists in protecting the health of Californians most at risk from COVID-19 impacts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Bargmann".

NANCY BARGMANN
Director

"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"