

August 6, 2020

Subject: Visiting Rules for Out-of-State Travelers

Dear Families,

Before the summer, I imagined telling the families of BCArc that our restrictive visiting rules will no longer be needed in August. Instead I am writing to tell you about the new mandatory Visitor Guidelines issued by the Governor's office for out-of-state travelers. Regrettably, we need to continue to be vigilant.

The restrictions we have been following have proven successful. We have not recorded a positive test from an individual in months. This is a tribute to our staff, who consider the safety of the individuals their priority.

The new rules listed below went into effect August 1, 2020. Before visiting a BCArc home, please read them carefully. While it is difficult for us as an agency to enforce every rule, we rely on each of us to follow the rules and keep each other safe. The requirements apply to every visitor—including families, guardians, therapists, etc. This also applies to individuals going to visit family who have been traveling out of the area.

All visitors and returning residents entering Massachusetts who do not meet an exemption, are required to:

- Complete the Massachusetts Travel Form prior to arrival, unless you are visiting from a lower-risk state designated by the Department of Public Health. The Commonwealth's travel form can be found at www.mass.gov/forms/massachusetts-travel-form.
- Quarantine for 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72-hours prior to your arrival in Massachusetts.

If a COVID-19 test result has not been received prior to arrival, visitors and residents must quarantine until they receive a negative result. Failure for BCArc to comply with the rules may lead to a \$500 fine per day.

Please find more information here <u>www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order</u>, including the list of lower-risk states, exemptions, business guidance and other details.

Again, thank you for understanding. We will keep moving forward one day at a time together.

Sincerely,

Ken

Kenneth Singer President & CEO