

Nursing Home COVID-19 Safety Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Supported by the Federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and in collaboration with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), the University of New Mexico ECHO Institute, and the Idaho Health Care Association, ECHO Idaho is bringing together small groups of peers and experts virtually to learn about current best practices to tackle COVID-19 related problems related to COVID-19 in Idaho's nursing homes.

Participation

Who can participate in this series?

Unlike ECHO Idaho's other series, the COVID-19 Nursing Home Safety is structured as a closed cohort for nursing home organizations. Any nursing home that is eligible to receive funding from the [federal CARES Act Provider Relief Fund](#) is welcome to join us.

At least **2** participants from each organization are required to join **at least 13 sessions** for full reimbursement, although more individuals from each organization can join if they would like. Individual participants **do not** need to be the same for each session. Administrators, CNAs, social workers, and other nursing home staff are welcome and encouraged to join each session.

How much does it cost to participate?

Participation is **free** to nursing homes who are eligible to receive funding from the federal CARES Act Provider Relief Fund.

My organization is not a nursing home or is not eligible to receive funding from the federal CARES Act Provider Relief Fund. Can I still participate?

Unfortunately, only nursing homes that are eligible to receive funding from the federal CARES Act Provider Relief Fund are able to participate in this ECHO series, per federal funding guidelines.

Please join us for our regularly scheduled COVID-19 ECHO series every first and third Tuesday of the month from noon to 1 p.m. Mountain time. Learn more on our [website](#) and [register](#) to receive email updates regarding ECHO Idaho's latest program offerings.



Reimbursement

How does my nursing home receive reimbursement for participating in ECHO Idaho's Nursing Home COVID-19 Safety series?

Each nursing home that meets reimbursement criteria will establish an agreement with the [University of New Mexico ECHO Institute](#) to receive funding. ECHO Idaho staff will work with each nursing home organization to ensure attendance and participation in session is tracked.

ECHO Idaho staff will provide additional technical assistance to ECHO Idaho COVID-19 Nursing Home Safety participants to ensure each nursing home site has an established agreement with the University of New Mexico ECHO Institute to receive funding.

Which organizations can receive reimbursement?

Only the nursing homes that were eligible to receive funding from the [federal CARES Act Provider Relief Fund \(PRF\)](#) and who agree to the 'terms and conditions' of the PRF are eligible to receive compensation for participation in this program.

What are the 'terms and conditions' of the Provider Relief Fund?

You can find the 'terms and conditions' of the Provider Relief Fund on the federal Health and Human Services website: <https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/cares-act-provider-relief-fund/providers/index.html#terms-and-conditions>.

If I don't attend all 16 consecutive weeks, is my nursing home still eligible for reimbursement?

Yes. Nursing homes are required to send **at least 2 attendees** to **at least 13 out of the 16 sessions** in their order to receive full payment. Please contact the [ECHO Institute](#) with additional questions about prorated reimbursement.

Do I have to attend these sessions with a co-worker at the same time in order to qualify for the reimbursement, or can we attend different cohorts?

As this is a closed, cohort-based series, we ask that all participants from each nursing home attend the **same** cohort. However, different participants from each nursing home may attend each week as long as at least two attendees from each nursing home in the cohort attend.

If you are unable to attend your cohort's designated session, please email ECHO Idaho at echoidaho@uidaho.edu to provide advanced notice, if possible.

Will the nursing home I'm associated with qualify for reimbursement if I attend each session weekly, but can't stay for the entire 90 minutes?

In order to receive full reimbursement for participation, **2** or more participants from each nursing home site must attend the **first 60-minutes** of 13 out of the 16 90-minute Nursing Home COVID-19 Safety ECHO sessions.



Registration

How do I register for Nursing Home COVID-19 Safety?

There are two steps to registering for an ECHO Idaho's Nursing Home COVID-19 Safety cohort:

1. Organizational Registration. Please assign one person from your nursing home site to complete the organizational registration form. Upon receipt of the organizational registration submission, the ECHO team will email a follow-up registration link directly to each individual identified in the organizational submission. Be on the lookout for an email from our general email account, echoidaho@uidaho.edu.
2. Individual Registration. An individual registration link will be sent to each individual identified in the organizational registration. Individual registration allows ECHO Idaho to send email updates and reminders about the series and help us keep track of attendance so each nursing home site receives full reimbursement for participation.

I've registered my nursing home organization for the series. Now what?

Be on the lookout for an email from our general email account, echoidaho@uidaho.edu. An individual registration link will be sent to each individual identified in the organizational registration. Individual registration allows ECHO Idaho to send email updates and reminders about the series and help us keep track of attendance so each nursing home site receives full reimbursement for participation.

There are many individuals within my organization who want to register. Can I register my entire staff for the cohort?

Absolutely! Please contact the ECHO Idaho staff via email, echoidaho@uidaho.edu, so we can work with you to streamline the registration process for your organization.