



## **HCSSAs: Personal Protective Equipment for Staff and Clients**

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### **Home and Community Support Services Agencies (HCSSAs) - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is required to be worn during home visits.**

#### Staff PPE:

A HCSSA must ensure its staff wear at least a medical-grade, FDA-approved surgical mask while providing services to a client or conducting a supervisory visit in a client's residence. Further, staff must wear additional PPE based on the services being provided or procedures being performed (e.g., wound care, respiratory treatment). If a client meets a COVID-19 screening criterion, then staff must wear full PPE, including an N95 mask instead of a surgical mask, while providing services to the client.

A HCSSA must maintain an adequate supply of PPE and provide all necessary PPE to its staff. Staff are not responsible for purchasing their own PPE.

#### Client PPE:

In response to a client's request for PPE, a HCSSA must communicate with the client on risk factors regarding infection control. A HCSSA must ensure a client has appropriate PPE to use while receiving HCSSA services, should the client desire to wear such PPE. Infection control supplies and equipment, such as PPE, must be addressed in the client's care plan, plan of care, or individualized service plan.

The information in this document applies to all HCSSAs, which are licensed agencies that provide:

- personal assistance services;
- home health services; or
- hospice services.