***HST GUIDELINES FOR DEMAND RESPONSE TRANSPORTATION SHARED RIDES AND SINGLE TRIPS June 14, 2021***

 **On May 29, 2021, the Commonwealth lifted COVID-19 restrictions while maintaining necessary COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures in certain settings. This updated guidance replaces and supersedes all prior reopening guidance for Human Service Transportation (HST).**

Health care providers must continue to comply with all federal and [state COVID-19 guidance](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-public-health-guidance-and-directives). This includes, but is not limited to, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention January 29, 2021 Order](https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html) and DPH guidance on a) [personal protective equipment (PPE)](https://www.mass.gov/doc/updated-comprehensive-personal-protective-equipment/download), b) [considerations for health care personnel after vaccination](https://www.mass.gov/doc/considerations-for-health-care-personnel-after-covid-19-vaccination/download), and c) [return to work guidance](https://www.mass.gov/doc/return-to-work-guidance/download) for all workers.

**SHARED RIDES**

Requirements:

1. Brokers will inform members of the requirement to wear a mask.
2. If members indicate that they are unable to wear a mask, they will be asked if they are fully vaccinated. If they do not indicate that they are fully vaccinated, they should not be placed in a shared ride except with other members of the same household.
3. Brokers will ask members to inform them if they have symptoms of COVID-19, if they have received a positive test for COVID-19 and are still isolating, if they are awaiting COVID-19 test results, or if they have had close contact within the last 14 days with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.
4. Members with known or suspected COVID-19 (including individuals traveling to testing or treatment for COVID-19) should not be placed in a shared ride.
5. Information about the mask requirement and procedures for individuals with known or suspected COVID-19 may be provided to members via recorded message.
6. No passengers will sit up front with the driver unless determined necessary for medical reasons indicated on the member’s PT-1.
7. Shared rides may have no more than two members in the back seat of a sedan with the middle seat unoccupied.
8. Shared rides may have up to 4 passengers in vans/SUVs with multiple rows of seating with the middle seats in each row unoccupied
9. Any other exceptions to shared rides as indicated on a member’s PT-1 form remain in effect.

**VEHICLE CLEANING**

Requirements

Cleaning and disinfection should be done consistent with guidance from the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/disinfecting-transport-vehicles.html) regarding vehicles used for non-emergency transportation.

**DRIVER HEALTH SCREENING**

Requirements

Designate one or more staff who will screen each driver that has not been vaccinated before they enter a vehicle each day.

1. Today or in the past 24 hours, have you or any household members have you experienced any symptoms of COVID-19?

2. Have you received a positive test result for COVID-19? When was the date of the test? Are you waiting to receive results of a COVID-19 test (other than routine testing of asymptomatic individuals)?

3. In the past 14 days, have you had close contact with a person known to be infected with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) or been told to quarantine due to exposure to a confirmed case or travel?

**DURING THE RIDE**

Requirements

1. Drivers must wear masks.
2. Consumers must wear masks, except if unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition or otherwise exempted by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention January 29, 2021 Order](https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html).
3. No passengers will sit up front with the driver unless determined necessary for medical reasons indicated on the member’s PT-1
4. The middle seats in each row will remain unoccupied. Drivers will be instructed to have all windows rolled down if safe to do so (when possible, roll windows down before members enter the vehicle). If not safe, they will have the air ventilation system set to high with no air recirculating.