

COVID-19

INFORMATION UPDATE



April 18, 2020

To: All Interior Health Employees and Medical Staff
From: Mike Jackson, Corporate Director, Employee and Labour Relations

Re: Temporary Staff Accommodation for Health Care Workers (COVID 19)

The Ministry of Health is supporting Health Authorities to provide temporary staff accommodations (TSA) for health care workers working in **active COVID patient care** and staff who do not provide patient care but are assigned to a **key COVID response role**. Temporary accommodation will be provided until otherwise communicated, subject to availability, to eligible health care workers who meet any of the following criteria:

- Worker exposed and can't go home due to compromised family members, or does not have the ability to self-isolate, or those who don't want to risk exposing their family;
- Worker does not know if they have been exposed but does not want to go home and pose a risk to their family, compromised or not;
- Worker has extended shifts and there are safety risks associated with travelling or is unable to secure transportation to and from work;
- Worker has been redeployed to another worksite.

Eligible health care workers approved for temporary staff accommodation will have a room booked for them and the cost will be paid by Interior Health. Only those rooms booked through the process will be funded. Other ancillary costs/expenses such as food, telephone, parking, internet, laundry and damage are the responsibility of the employee.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible for the TSA, health care workers must meet the following two criteria:

- Health Care Worker – all health care providers, health service providers, support staff working in ancillary services within health care, mental health and substance use; and
- The health care worker must be working in active COVID patient care or be assigned to a key COVID response role.

Application and Approval Process

The application can be accessed [here](#), completed by the employee/medical staff and submitted to Manager/Dept. Head for approval that the eligibility requirements are met. The Manager/ Dept. Head forwards the approved application to IHCOVIDCallCentreTeam@interiorhealth.ca and the team will book the room and notify the health care worker (see key timelines on application form).

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