

Hotels for Healthcare Workers (HFHCW) Program Program Updates and Reminders

Hello Facility POCs,

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

We would like to communicate the following HFHCW changes and updates to you.

IMPORTANT:

1. **Effective April 15, 2021**, the eligibility criteria has been updated to reflect the *removal of eligibility language related to the use of PPE*. Facility POCs are encouraged to follow CDC and CDPH guidance for defining exposure when determining employee eligibility.

To this end, determining employee exposure to COVID-19 is now 100% an internal decision, by the facility. POCs still have the ultimate authority to deny or approve employee access to the program, as determined by the facility and in accordance with CDC and CDPH guidelines. POCs must still properly determine eligibility of a healthcare worker or non-healthcare worker to participate in the program. Please refer to the [COVID19.ca.gov](https://www.covid19.ca.gov) website for program eligibility/guidance.

Employees who are ineligible for a free room may still take advantage of the low rates offered by our contracted hotels. In these cases, reservation requests must indicate "SELF-PAY". The employee will be required to provide a personal credit card at the time the reservation is made.

2. **Effective April 30, 2021:**
 - a. HRS will be the sole travel agency fulfilling reservation requests for the HFHCW program.
 - b. All reservations (extensions or new) must be emailed to HRS.
 - c. DO NOT email CalTravelStore for booking requests as they will not be honored.
3. **Effective April 30, 2021**, reservation length is restricted to ten (10) days*. Employees may not remain in a hotel after 10 days if they no longer test positive and/or no longer have exposure.

Reservation length is "per instance" and *not* cumulative.

*Exception to this are CALMAT and California Health Corps.

If you have questions regarding these program updates and reminders, please send an email to DGS at covid19lodging@dgs.ca.gov.