



ARBORS
OF HOP BROOK

*Life Plan
Retirement Community*

Effective 10/4/21: Caregivers to be COVID Vaccinated

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), announced yesterday that emergency regulations **requiring vaccinations for nursing home workers will be expanded to include hospitals and home health agencies**, among others, as a condition for participating in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The decision was based on the continued and growing spread of the virus in health care settings, especially in parts of the U.S. with higher incidence of COVID-19.

“There is no higher priority for us than patient health and safety. As the Delta variant strengthens, the Biden-Harris Administration is committed to doing everything we can to keep patients, and those who care for them, safe,” said U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra. “There is no question that staff, across any health care setting, who remain unvaccinated pose both direct and indirect threats to patient safety and population health. Ensuring safety and access to all patients, regardless of their entry point into the health care system, is essential.”

As the highly contagious Delta variant spreads, unvaccinated individuals remain at high risk and can spread the virus to others, including vaccinated individuals. Our residents are some of the most vulnerable individuals to the consequences of contracting COVID-19.

To support resident safety, currently:

Arbors requires caregivers to present proof of at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccination, **OR** a negative COVID-19 test collected within 7 days. Rapid test or PCR results will be accepted.

As of October 4, 2021 all health workers (aides/caregivers/health providers) entering Arbors must meet the following requirements:

All caregivers and health workers must provide documentation which shows they are:

- (i) fully vaccinated against COVID-19, **or**
- (ii) receive the first dose and has either received a second dose or has an appointment for the second dose in a two-dose series vaccination, such as Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or has received a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine, **or**
- (iii) exempt from this requirement because a physician, physician’s assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse determined that the

administration of COVID-19 vaccine is likely to be detrimental to the health of the covered LTC worker.

The mandated vaccination requirement does not apply to family members or general visitors.

For Persons with Missing Vaccination Cards:

Residents: See nursing

All others missing proof of vaccination: If you lost your COVID vaccination card and you were vaccinated in Connecticut, google “CT WiZ: Access My Immunization Record” the statewide Immunization Information System (IIS). Proof of Identification is necessary.

Call: 860-509-7929 or fax request & proof of identification to: 860-509-8370 or
Email Khristie.walser@ct.gov

Thank you for your continued vigilance and consideration of our valued residents!

Sincerely, Chanté Drasdis, Executive Director