



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

Tips and Best Practices for Reopening Barber and Cosmetology Services in Assisted Living Facilities

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) recommends that long-term care facilities do not reopen until all residents and staff members receive a single baseline COVID-19 test. VDSS has compiled tips and best practices for preventative strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Each individual facility should make its decision based on an assessment of its own specific circumstances. This does not diminish the responsibility of assisted living facilities to safely provide care and services to residents and follow existing COVID-19 health and safety guidance.

General Guidance

- ✂ Salon services should be restricted to COVID-19 negative and asymptomatic residents or residents meeting the criteria for [discontinuation of transmission-based precautions](#).
- ✂ Prohibit outside clients from using beauty and barber services in the facility.
- ✂ Discontinue manicure, pedicure, and waxing services. Routine nail clipping permitted. Sanitize clippers with an EPA-registered cleaning agent after each use.
- ✂ Avoid using hand-held dryers and sponge roller sets.
- ✂ If the facility is experiencing an outbreak, barber and cosmetology services should be suspended until there are no residents with transmission-based precautions.
- ✂ Non-essential personnel/contractors should not enter the salon if any resident is present. Clean and sanitize the salon prior to residents entering after non-essential personnel/contractors have left.
- ✂ Residents should wear a face covering or face mask at all times during their appointment, unless medically contraindicated.

Barber/Beautician

- ✂ Upon entering the building, the barber/cosmetologist should be actively screened for fever and symptoms of COVID-19 in the same manner as all health care workers, staff, and visitors to include:
 - Temperature checks
 - Questionnaire about symptoms and potential exposure
 - Observation of any signs and symptoms
- ✂ The cosmetologist or barber should remain in the salon area and avoid common areas of the facility.

Barber/Beautician continued

- ✂ The cosmetologist or barber should not transport residents within the building to and from resident rooms.
- ✂ Salon staff should wear a face mask at all times.

Salon

- ✂ Provide hand sanitizer at the barbershop/salon entrance and at any station being used by a resident, barber, or cosmetologist.
- ✂ Remove commonly touched non-essential items such as magazines, self-serve coffee, candy jars, etc.
- ✂ Place salon stations, including salon chairs for resident use, at least six-feet apart.
- ✂ Place covered trash cans near barber or cosmetology stations
- ✂ When possible use disposable towels, capes, and linens:
 - Store clean towels, capes, and linens in a closed, covered container prior to use.
 - Clean and disinfect or discard non-porous capes (e.g., plastic, vinyl) after a single use.
 - Store all reusable towels, capes, linens and other porous fabric in a closed container after use and laundered and/or sanitized after a single use.

Salon Visits

- ✂ Barber/cosmetology services should be by appointment only.
- ✂ Stagger appointments to minimize the number of individuals waiting and allow time to disinfect workstations and grooming tools between clients.



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Salon Visits cont.

- ✂ Limit the number of residents in the salon to two residents at one time with six feet between salon stations.
- ✂ No more than two residents should be waiting and they should follow social distancing requirements.
- ✂ No resident in the waiting area should enter until all furniture, salon equipment, service area surfaces, including high-touch points, have been properly cleaned and sanitized between residents using EPA-registered disinfectant. Refer to [Disinfectant Reminders for Shops, Salons, and Spas](#) for additional information.
- ✂ Barbers and cosmetologists should perform hand hygiene, at a minimum, before and after contact with the resident.
- ✂ Residents should perform hand hygiene before and after receiving services.

Additional Resources:

- [Board for Barbers and Cosmetology](#)
- [PS Salon and Spa ACCORD Plan for Reopening](#)
- [VDH Nursing Home Reopening Guidance](#)
- [VDH Cleaning and Disinfection Tips for COVID-19](#)
- [List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [CMS Nursing Home Reopening Recommendations \(5/18/2020\)](#)

Contact your licensing inspector if additional guidance is needed.