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LeadingAge Kansas COVID-19 Weekly Update August 27, 2021



Vaccine News

1. FDA Approval for Pfizer <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-first-covid-19-vaccine>
2. Federal booster plan underway
3. Awaiting Federal Vaccine Mandate Rule – expected in September
4. Nursing Home Vaccine Mandate
FAQs <https://leadingage.org/regulation/nursing-home-vaccine-mandate-faqs>
5. [Read LeadingAge's recent statement](#) on vaccine mandates.
6. Advocacy: Let federal officials know what you think?

Position Against Federal Vaccination Mandate

LeadingAge Kansas opposes any federal edict requiring ANY type of health care provider to mandate staff COVID-19 vaccination as a Condition of Participation in Medicaid or Medicare. This constitutes an ill-conceived government action, fraught with potential for serious negative consequences to the entire healthcare system and the people it serves.

However, if the federal government does, indeed, impose this requirement on nursing homes, it should be applied to all healthcare settings, to avoid the disproportionate and inevitable blow to availability of nursing home care for older Kansans.

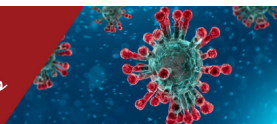
Vaccine Mandate Advocacy

Your Voice Needed

- [Senator Jerry Moran](#)
- [Senator Roger Marshall](#)
- 1st District: [Representative Tracey Mann](#)
- 2nd District: [Representative Jake LaTurner](#)
- 3rd District: [Representative Sharice Davids](#)
- 4th District: [Representative Ron Estes](#)
- [Contact Members of the Kansas Congressional Delegation](#) to express your concerns.
- The [President](#)
- [Xavier Becerra, Secretary](#) of US HHS
- CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure. Leave a message at Phone 1-877-267-2323
- Katie Sloan ksloan@leadingage.org
- Plan to submit comments when the Interim Final Rule is published

LeadingAge Kansas in The News

- Add links to newspaper article
- WIBW report
- Social Media
- Statewide Press Release will be sent Date



Kansas Advocacy

- Joint letter to Governor Kelly and the Legislative Coordinating Council requesting emergency staffing and regulatory relief for long term care
 - Temporary nurse aides
 - Training and licensing flexibilities
 - Expanded access to additional emergency workforce
 - Limit charges and investigate price gouging of staffing agencies
 - Reinstate waiver for PASSAR
 - Waive 60 day notice of closure if due to staffing shortages
 - And more...

State update

- KDHE and KDADS now posting map & data table with nursing home-specific staff vaccination rates
https://kshealthdata.kdhe.ks.gov/t/BEPHI_COVID-19/views/LTCFVaccineCoverage_16299836209060/Home?:showAppBanner=false&:display_count=n&:showVizHome=n&:origin=viz_share_link
- Based on NHSN reports. To be updated weekly.
- Nursing home dashboard can be accessed by going to the KDHE Case Dashboard → COVID-19 Metrics → Nursing Home Staff Vaccination Coverage tile.

OSHA Virtual Summer Healthcare Symposium

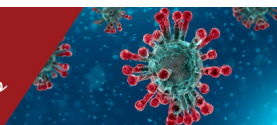
- Tuesday, August 31st
- Topics:
 - Covid related topics:
 - ETS- Overview & How to Comply
 - NEP Enforcement
 - Vaccination and Testing
 - Guidance, Resources & Lessons Learned
- Register at [OSHA Summer 2021 Healthcare Symposium - August 31, 2021 | Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

USDA Rural Health Care Grant Funds

- \$500 million in grants for rural healthcare facilities and communities
 - Tier 1: Covid Recovery
 - Tier 2: Impact Grants
- Due Oct. 1
- Interested in applying?
 - Read full criteria – www.rd.usda.gov
 - Contact USDA Regional Office to discuss plans
 - Topeka (State Office)- 785-271-2700

Value First and Testing Update

- McKesson, Value First's preferred distribution partner, supply chain update:
 - They continued to see a significant increase in orders for the Abbott BinaxNow and Quidel's Quickvue test cards.
 - The Abbott BinaxNow cards are now on allocation.
 - Quidel's Quickvue tests are not under allocation restrictions yet, however, please anticipate a minimum of a week and a half lead time in getting your testing orders.
 - McKesson does still have inventory on Gowns, Gloves as well as Honeywell N95 masks!
 - For ordering information please reach out to our Regional McKesson Representative, Scott Fleet. (816.305.7177) scott.fleet@mckesson.com
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Fall Joint Provider Surveyor Training

Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Location: Zoom

The focus of this training will include:

- Delta variant
- Transmissibility and Prevention of COVID
- Vaccine Skepticism and Hesitancy/Boosters
- Mandate of the Vaccine
- FDA Approval of the Vaccine

Time Options:

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

or

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

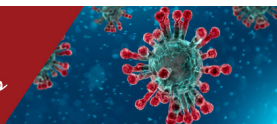
Speakers:

Lacey Hunter, RN & Dawne Stevenson, RN - KDADS
Dr. Michael Skoch - Sunflower Health Plan
Dr. Farah Ahmed - KDHE

Cost: \$55 per person

Continuing Education: 3 hours

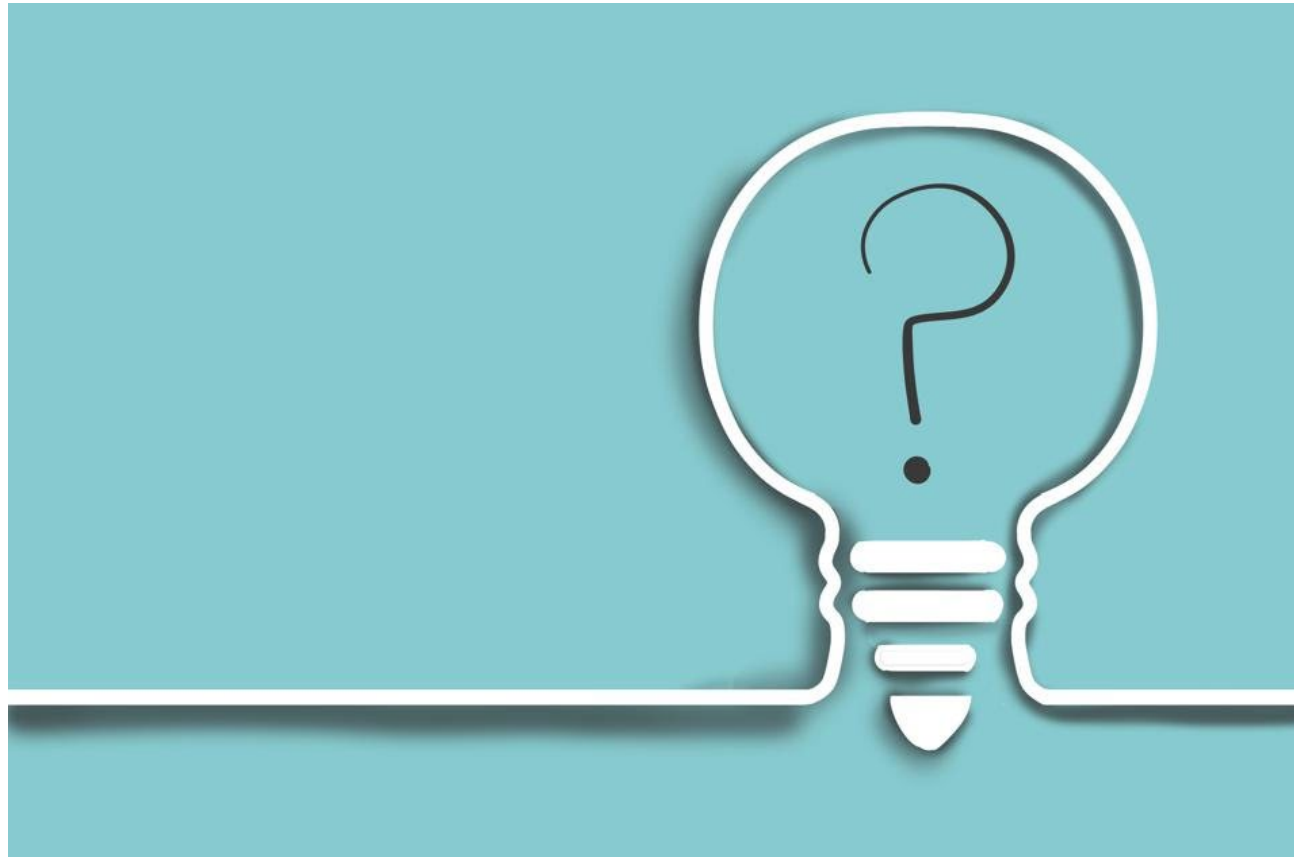
[Register Now](#)



2021 Virtual Fall Conference

- Dates: October 18 – 22
- We will be utilizing the platform Attendify
- Education Focuses include:
 - Workforce
 - Policy
 - Nurse
 - COVID
 - Financial
- Learning Groups:
 - DON
 - LPC





www.leadingagekansas.org/covid19

