



# Department of Health

**KATHY HOCHUL**  
Governor

**JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.**  
Acting Commissioner

**MEGAN E. BALDWIN**  
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

May 18, 2023

DAL#           NH-23-05  
Subject:       Changes to Admission and Retention  
                  Regulations in Adult Care Facilities and  
                  Discharge Planning of Adult Care Facility  
                  Residents

Dear Nursing Home Administrator:

The purpose of this Dear Administrator Letter (DAL) is to inform Nursing Home providers of changes to the Admission and Retention requirements of Adult Care Facilities (ACFs), which include, but are not limited to, adult homes, enriched housing programs, and assisted living programs. These requirements, in the form of updated regulations, are available at: [https://regs.health.ny.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/recently\\_adopted\\_regulations/Updated%20Retention%20Standards%20for%20Adult%20Care%20Facilities.pdf](https://regs.health.ny.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/recently_adopted_regulations/Updated%20Retention%20Standards%20for%20Adult%20Care%20Facilities.pdf).

The amended regulations prohibit ACFs from denying admission or retention of residents because of their wheelchair use or mobility impairment, and require ACFs to provide reasonable accommodations to residents as required by law. The amendments also remove provisions about the ability of residents to walk and climb or descend stairs. The amendments make no other changes to ACF regulations.

Please keep these changes in mind when coordinating the discharge of residents from your facility and ensure that discharge planning staff are aware of them when working to place patients upon discharge from your facility. For reference, please refer to DAL-NH-19-16 and DAL-NH-18-05.

Questions regarding adult care facility regulations and policies may be submitted via email to [acfinfo@health.ny.gov](mailto:acfinfo@health.ny.gov).

Sincerely,

Ashley Cokgoren, Acting Director  
Division of Nursing Home and ICF/IID Surveillance