

May 19, 2020

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 20-57**

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to inform counties that the Essential Protective Gear (EPG), previously referred to as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), that has been provided to Public Authority (PA) offices in each county can now be distributed to any In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provider who requests it.



**KIM JOHNSON**  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**  
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**GAVIN NEWSOM**  
GOVERNOR

May 19, 2020

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 20-57

**TO:** ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM MANAGERS  
PUBLIC AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

**SUBJECT: ESSENTIAL PROTECTIVE GEAR (EPG) FOR IN-HOME  
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PROVIDERS DUE TO COVID-19**

The purpose of this All County Letter (ACL) is to inform counties that the Essential Protective Gear (EPG), previously referred to as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), that was provided to Public Authority (PA) offices in each county can now be distributed to any In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) provider who requests it. Please note, this ACL supersedes the guidance provided in [ACL. 20-41](#), dated April 17, 2020.

The link below demonstrates how to properly put on and remove the EPG:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/ppe/ppe-sequence.pdf>

EPG does not guarantee total protection and must be used in combination with precautionary measures such as those below to be most effective.

- Washing hands with soap and water.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces daily. If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Covering coughs or sneezes with a tissue or elbow.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Staying away from work, school or other people if sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough.
- Following guidance from public health officials, such as staying home if over the age of 65 or with underlying health conditions.

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To ensure each county has an adequate supply of EPG, PAs should continue to report weekly distribution amounts to the California Department of Social Services by close of business each Monday.

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, contact the Financial Management Unit (FMU), Adult Programs Division (APD) at (916) 652-3850 or at [APD\\_FMU@dss.ca.gov](mailto:APD_FMU@dss.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By***

DEBBI THOMPSON

Deputy Director

Adult Programs Division

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