

Mask Guidance - Visitation Screening & Visitation Process

	COVID Present in Community	COVID Free 14 days or Greater	Warm Zone	Hot Zone
Fully Vaccinated Team Members	N95s and Face Shield	Medical Mask	N95 and Face Shield	N95 and Face Shield
Unvaccinated Team Members	N95 and Face shield	N95 and Face Shield	N95 and Face Shield	N95 and Face Shield
Fully Vaccinated Residents	KN95, N95, Medical Mask if 95s not tolerated	Medical Mask or Cloth Mask	KN95, N95, Medical Mask if 95s not tolerated	KN95, N95, Medical Mask if N95s not tolerated
Unvaccinated Residents	KN95, N95, Medical Mask if 95s not tolerated	Medical Mask	KN95, N95, Medical Mask if 95s not tolerated	KN95, N95, Medical Mask if 95s not tolerated
Clinical Vendors	N N95 and Face Shield	N95s	N95 and Face Shield	N95 and Face Shield
Service Vendors	N95 and Face Shield	N95s	N95 and Face Shield	N/A--unless emergency then N95/Face Shield
Essential Caregivers	N95 and Face Shield	Medical Mask	N95 and Face Shield	N95 and Face Shield
Visitors	N95 and Face Shield	N95s or KN95s	N95 and Face Shield	N95 and Face Shield

Visitor Screening & Visitation Process

- All visitors are screened (except emergency personnel) prior to entry.
 - Visitation appointments must be scheduled with the facility designee to allow time for cleaning and sanitizing of the visitation area between visits.
 - Visits are permitted where adequate space is available as necessary to ensure physical distancing between visitation group and safe infection control practices, including resident's room.
 - Visitor movement will be limited through the community to ensure interaction with other residents/veterans/patients is minimized.
 - There may be up to two designated essential caregiver visitors per resident/veteran/patient and may visit at the same time--visit may occur outdoors, in the resident's room, or in another area of the community that limits visitor movement and interaction with other residents.
 - Essential Caregiver visits and end-of-life visits are permitted for all residents regardless of COVID-19 status.
 - The facility must allow Essential Caregiver visits, end-of-life visits, and indoor visits. (Must ensure equal access by all residents to visitors and Essential Caregiver's).
 - Indoor Visitation: Must have separate areas, units, or wings designated for: COVID -19 positive, COVID-19 negative, and unknown COVID-19 status residents.
 - Outdoor Visitation: Must ensure a comfortable and safe outdoor visiting area for outdoor visits, considering outside temperatures and ventilation.
 - Handwashing Stations: Must provide hand-washing station or hand sanitizer to the visitor and resident/veteran/patient before and after visits and they practice hand hygiene before/after the visit
- Visitor screenings must be documented on the Visitor & Essential Caregiver & Salon Services Screening Sign in/Sign out Log and each visitor must complete the Screening Checklist Form which is kept at the entrance to the community. The log must include the name of the screened visitor, date, time, and results of the screening. The log constitutes protected health information and must be secured in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.
- Visitors who have any of the following screening criteria must leave the community and reschedule the visit:
 - Fever, defined as a temperature of 100.4 Fahrenheit and above;
 - Signs or symptoms of COVID-19, including chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat,

- congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea, or any other signs and symptoms as outlined by the CDC in Symptoms of Coronavirus at www.cdc.gov;
- Close contact in the last 14 days with someone who has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, is under investigation for COVID-19, or is ill with a respiratory illness, regardless of vaccination status: or
- Has a tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 10 days.
- Person's providing critical assistance, Essential Caregivers, and persons with legal authority must be allowed to enter the facility if they pass the screening criteria listed above.
- The facility *may not require* a personal visitor to provide documentation of a COVID-19 Negative test or COVID-19 Vaccination status as a condition of visitation or to enter the facility.
- **Essential Caregiver(s) may not participate in visitation if they have signs and symptoms of COVID-19 or have an active COVID-19 infection.**
- The facility should offer and encourage Binax card testing to the visitor.
- Essential Caregiver Additional Screening Requirements:
 - Facility may offer Binax card testing to the visitor, but admission should not be denied for refusal to undertake Binax card testing.
 - Confirmation of Essential Caregiver(s) have completed HHSC required training (proper PPE usage, infection control measures, hand hygiene, and cough and sneeze etiquette) before each visit.
 - Confirmation of signed statement of understanding and agreement by the Essential Caregiver(s) that they have been informed of and agree to follow policy, procedures, and other requirements as instructed in the facility training
 - Facility approved facemask and other additional PPE recommended by CDC guidance and facility's policy
 - Instruction to Essential Caregiver(s) regarding facility designated entrances and exits.
 - Attestation of the identity of the Essential Caregiver(s).
 - Provide Essential Caregiver(s) visitor badge
- The facility may cancel the Essential Caregiver visit if the Essential Caregiver fails to comply with the facility's policy regarding essential caregiver visits. If Essential Caregiver visitor is cancelled, notify and document the resident/veteran/patient was informed and reason why.

COVID-19 Status & Indoor Visitation

When at least one confirmed COVID-19 resident or team member case occurs in the last 14 consecutive days in a building that accommodates residents who are COVID-19 negative, the facility *may not permit indoor visitation* **except for** essential caregiver and end-of-life visits, until all of the following conditions are met:

- Outbreak testing is conducted in accordance with CMS testing regulations.
- The first round of outbreak testing *revealed no additional* COVID-19 cases in other areas, units, wings, halls, or buildings that accommodate residents who are COVID-19 negative; and indoor visitation is suspended for the affected area, unit, wing, hall, or building that accommodates residents who are COVID-19 negative until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.
- Indoor visitation is suspended for the affected area, unit, wing, hall, or building that accommodates residents who are COVID-19 negative until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing

COVID-19 County Positivity Rate & Visitation

- A nursing facility located in a county with a positivity rate of 10 percent or lower must permit Essential Caregiver visits, End-of-Life visits, Outdoor Visits, and Indoor visits.
- A nursing facility located in a county with a positivity rate greater than 10 percent and at least 70 percent of the residents in the facility are fully vaccinated, must permit Essential Caregiver visits, End-of-Life visits, Outdoor Visits, and Indoor Visits
- A nursing facility located in a county with a positivity rate greater than 10 percent and fewer than 70 percent of the residents in the facility are fully vaccinated, must:
 - limit indoor visits, not including Essential Caregiver and End-of-Life visits, to fully vaccinated residents with COVID-19 negative status; and
 - permit Outdoor Visits, End-of-Life Visits, and Essential Caregiver visits