



INDOOR VISITATION FAQS

We remain thankful that Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) approved indoor family visitation at long term care facilities. The approval to allow indoor visitation did come with restrictions and criteria for Residents, their families, and the facility. Please remember if the facility should have a COVID positive Resident and/or employee, we will have to restrict visitation. There must be no new COVID cases that originated within the facility within the last 14 days.

Please note that outdoor visitation remains the facility preference over indoor visitation. Research has shown that outdoor activities have 19X less risks than indoor activities. Indoor visitation will be allowed when outdoor visitation is not possible or in the best interest of the Resident.

These FAQs serve as an education tool to understanding COVID, the restrictions and guidelines. Please read the following very carefully.

What is COVID-19?

Per the CDC, the virus causing coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), is not the same as the coronaviruses that commonly circulate among humans and cause mild illness, like the common cold. There are many types of human coronaviruses including some that commonly cause mild upper-respiratory tract illnesses. COVID-19 is a new disease, caused by a novel (or new) coronavirus that has not previously been seen in humans.

What are signs and symptoms of COVID-19?

Please watch and monitor to ensure you have had none of the following symptoms in the last 14 days - any respiratory symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, and/or any other type of upper respiratory symptoms or GI symptoms such as N/V/diarrhea.

What can I do to stop the spread of COVID-19?

The CDC provides education and guidance on how we can all work together to prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19. When in public (grocery store, pharmacy, doctor, etc.), wear a cloth face covering over your mouth. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. Practice social distancing allowing 6 ft. in between yourself and others. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Stay home when you get sick, except to get medical care.

Will there be scheduled hours for indoor visitation?

Yes, the facility will set the hours at a minimum of four hours a day (combination of indoor and outdoor) and must include evening and weekend options for visits. We may alter the visitation at any time. For example, if the county sees an increase in COVID cases, we may determine to only allow outdoor visitations until we see a decline in cases within the county. Preset visitation slots will be available and scheduled by the facility. If a visitor arrives during a time not scheduled with the facility, they will not be allowed to visit. The number of visitation slots will be dependent upon the number of visiting stations the facility can provide. The visitor stations must meet the guidelines for social distancing.

Where will indoor visitations take place?

Visiting stations will be set up within the facility. Utilize the routes indicated by the facility to travel to and from the visitation area. Visitors are NOT allowed in the Residents room for any reason. The only exception to this is for visits with bedbound Residents.

What is required to be allowed to visit?

A surgical mask or greater MUST be worn during the entire indoor visitation. Cloth masks for visitors will NOT be allowed for indoor visits. Visitors may wear their own mask, or the facility will provide one surgical mask per visitor. The visitor is responsible for bringing the mask back to each visitation. Visitors are also required to keep physical distancing between themselves and the Resident of at least 6 ft. apart. No hugging or touching will be allowed. If a Resident needs assistance, please engage our facility representative to assist. Visitors will also be required to sanitize their hands before and after each visit.

Can I visit if I have had a COVID positive test in the past?

Yes, you can if you either provide documentation (e.g., doctor's note) that you no longer meet CDC criteria for transmission-based precautions or provide two negative test results, following the positive result, that was completed greater than 24 hours apart.

Will visitors be screened?

Yes, all visitors will be screened prior to visitation. The visitor must pass the screening process to be allowed to visit. Visitors must answer questions related to COVID-19 and will be required to sign the screening form as well as an addendum questionnaire as needed. Temperatures will also be taken upon arrival.

How many visitors can see a Resident?

Only (2) visitors will be allowed per Resident visit. This is to accommodate social distancing in our preset areas.

Is visitation open for all ages?

Yes, there is no age restriction on children visiting. Visitors with children must be able to manage them, and children must be able to wear a mask during the entire visit. Children under the age of two are not required to wear a mask per CDC guidance. Any minor, under the age of 16, must be accompanied by an adult.

How long may I visit?

Indoor visits are restricted to a minimum of 30 minutes per visit. This will allow time to adequately sanitize visitation stations in between visitors. It also ensures each Resident has an opportunity to have family visits.

Can I bring food?

Yes, you can bring food; however, Resident will not be able to consume the food during the visit. Also, if a Resident has dietary restrictions, the food must meet these restrictions. If you are unsure if your loved one has food restrictions contact the facility prior to your visit to learn what is allowed.

How do I stay connected in between visits?

We encourage phone calls, video chat, window visits, cards and ecards as ways to stay connected to your loved one during this difficult time.

THANK YOU

We thank you, in advance, for understanding, the visitor guidelines and restrictions. It is our hope that these indoor visits will help the wellbeing of our Residents who have been apart from those they love for far too long. Failure to comply with any of the indoor visitor guidelines may result in cancellation of any future visits. Please know that every decision we make is with safety in mind for our Residents and employees.