



# Division of Juvenile Justice Visitation Phases Overview

*Updated 8/14/20*

The Division of Juvenile Justice recognizes the value of families and community involvement and is committed to the safety of staff and residents. In line with local, state and national guidelines to minimize the spread of COVID -19 we lifted our suspension of visitation at our DJJ secure facilities on July 6, 2020 and created phases for slow reopening. Increased opportunities for visits from families, community partners, attorneys, and volunteers were staggered throughout those phases.

On 8/14/20, the Division of Juvenile Justice modified its visitation phases to include the use of COVID-19 community transmission data from the Department of Health and Social Services dashboard alert levels to guide our visitation phases. (<https://coronavirus-response-alaska-dhss.hub.arcgis.com/>)

**High = Temporary suspension of visitation**

**Intermediate = Phase 1 Visitation Protocols**

**Low = Phase 2 Visitation Protocols**

- A Unit must be within community transmission limits of a phase for 14 days, and have no COVID-19 related incident or concern, prior to a request to advance to the next phase of visitation. In the event community transmission enters High Alert facility visitation will be temporarily suspended.
- Alert levels on the DHSS COVID-19 dashboard will be updated Monday through Friday by 1500 hours. Any need for temporary suspension will be communicated to the Statewide Facility Superintendent.
- The Unit Supervisors, or their designee, must request advancement to the next phase of visitation through their Superintendent. Final approval for advancement will be made between the Statewide Facility Manager, Nursing Director, and Division Operations Manager.
- Return to visitation after suspension due to a quarantine can be done so after state or local public health officials have advised the quarantine is no longer necessary, community transmission levels warrant removal of the temporary suspension, and approval from the Statewide Facility Manager, Nursing Director, and Division Operations Manager is granted.
- Visitation phases for each unit will be kept updated, as best as reasonably possible, on the Division's website. *Please note that division staff do not have real time access to the website and must request updates which occur Monday through Friday (excluding State of Alaska recognized holidays).* Unit Supervisors or their designee are encouraged to promptly notify families, volunteers, attorneys or community partners if visitation has been suspended. These individuals are encouraged to check the website first before contacting the unit.

**The Division of Juvenile Justice looks forward to gradually resuming visitation opportunities for our youth and families. Please help us keep our residents and staff safe by reviewing the phase guidelines required before arriving at the facility. Thank you.**