



# Visitation Guidelines for Residential Congregate Facilities

January 21, 2021

If your facility has started vaccinating residents and staff against COVID-19, you may allow visitation with family members and close friends if the following conditions are met:

- ✓ Greater than or equal to 80% of all residents and staff have been vaccinated and received their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days prior to visitation
- ✓ Resident being visited has either received their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days prior to visitation or had laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection in the past 6 months
- ✓ Visitors must show proof of a negative PCR or NAAT<sup>1</sup> COVID-19 test that was collected within 72 hours of their visit or proof of having completed a full COVID-19 vaccination series at least 14 days prior to their visit
- ✓ No resident or staff in the facility has had a positive COVID-19 test within the past 14 days

If these conditions are not met, please continue to follow the visitation guidance found in the State of Alaska's [COVID-19 Recommended Guidance for Congregate Residential Settings](#).

*Please note that these guidelines are provisional and subject to change.*

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<sup>1</sup> Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT), also known as a molecular test, is an acceptable alternative to a PCR test. Common NAAT tests include the Cepheid GeneXpert Xpress and Abbott ID NOW among others.

## Visitation Details

- Require visitors and service providers to schedule an appointment for the visit to ensure the facility can safely accommodate the number of people and have enough staff to monitor compliance with required prevention activities.
- Screen all visitors and service providers.
  - Ensure visitors have taken a PCR or NAAT COVID-19 test and received a negative result within 72 hours of conducting the visit
  - Visitors who have completed their COVID-19 vaccine series at least 14 days prior to their visit are able to visit without recent testing
  - Visitors and service providers **must be fever-free, symptom-free, and have no known exposure to COVID-19 within the past 14 days.**
- Collect visitors' full names and contact information.
- Greet visitors at a designated area at the entrance of the facility where a staff member must:
  - Perform temperature check and [symptom screening](#).
  - Document the visitor's contact information and the results of the screening.
  - Ensure the visitor has a face mask or cloth covering that does not have an [exhalation valve](#), and ensure the mask covers the visitor's nose and mouth.
  - Have the visitor clean their hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
  - Escort the visitor to the designated visitation area.
- Encourage outdoor visitation (weather permitting). These visits should still adhere to social distancing protocols and universal masking of residents and visitors.
- Limit indoor visitation to common spaces, such as activity areas or dining rooms that allow for appropriate social distancing and cleaning and disinfection between visitors.
  - Internal group gatherings, such as dining and group activities, should be restricted in these areas during visitation to prevent potential exposure to other residents.
  - For smaller facilities, such as those in residential home-like structures and/or those with limited room ventilation systems, indoor visitation must be limited to a maximum of two visitors for one resident at a time with no congregating of individuals or groups of residents or visitors in the area being used for indoor visitation.
- Do not allow more visitors into the facility than can be safely accommodated with the space available
- Require visitors and service providers to **wear masks during the entirety of the visit.**
  - Residents should wear masks unless it is medically contraindicated.
- Deny entry to visitors or service providers who don't pass screening or who refuse to comply with any of the requirements.