

REVISED VISITATION POLICY

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for visitation that comply with the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) requirements while promoting residents' rights, safety, and well-being.

POLICY

Residents of the Assisted Living Facility (ALF) have the right to receive visitors of their choosing at the time of their preference, consistent with resident rights under **Florida Statute 429.28** and **Florida Statute 408.823**.

GENERAL VISITATION GUIDELINES

- Visiting hours are 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily, at minimum.
- Visiting hours may be extended upon request for caregivers, out-of-town guests, end-of-life situations, or similar circumstances.
- Visitors must sign in at the designated area upon arrival and sign out upon departure.
- Visitors should perform hand hygiene upon entry.
- Visitors should respect the privacy, dignity, and rights of all residents.
- Consensual physical contact between residents and visitors is permitted, including hugging and hand-holding.
- Visitors and residents will not be required to socially distance from one another.

RESIDENT RIGHTS REGARDING VISITATION

Residents have the right to:

- Receive visitors of their choosing.
- Refuse or withdraw consent to any visitor at any time.
- Designate up to two (2) essential caregivers.
- Have private visits, including with spouses or partners.
- Engage in consensual physical contact.

ESSENTIAL CAREGIVERS

- Each resident may designate up to two (2) essential caregivers.
- Essential caregivers are permitted at least two (2) hours of in-person visitation daily, in addition to regular visitation hours.
- Essential caregivers cannot be denied access to the facility due to signs or symptoms of a communicable disease.
- Essential caregivers must follow infection control precautions when applicable.
- Essential caregivers are not required to provide care to residents.

INFECTION CONTROL AND VISITOR EDUCATION

The facility provides infection control education to visitors to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

Visitors will receive instruction regarding:

- Proper hand hygiene techniques
- Respiratory etiquette (covering coughs and sneezes)
- Proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE) when indicated
- Infection prevention practices

Educational signage is posted throughout the facility, including:

- At entrances
- In common areas
- Near hand hygiene stations
- Near resident rooms when appropriate

SCREENING, PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE), AND INFECTION CONTROL PROTOCOLS

To reduce the spread of communicable diseases:

- Visitors must sign in and sign out upon arrival and departure.
- Visitors are encouraged to self-monitor for symptoms of communicable disease.
- PPE may be provided or recommended when indicated.
- Visitors will be instructed on proper PPE use when required.

When a Resident Is Ill

If a resident has signs or symptoms of illness:

- Visitors will be educated on infection control precautions.
- PPE may be required or recommended during visitation.
- Visits may occur in the resident's room or designated areas.
- Essential caregivers will not be denied access, but must follow infection control precautions.

VACCINATION STATUS

Visitors will not be required to:

- Provide proof of vaccination
- Provide proof of immunization
- Disclose vaccination status

This applies to all visitors and essential caregivers.

LENGTH OF VISITS

- General visitation hours: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Essential caregivers: At least two (2) hours daily, in addition to regular visiting hours.
- Extended visitation will be permitted when requested and appropriate.

END-OF-LIFE VISITATION

- Compassionate care visits, including end-of-life situations, will be allowed at any time.
- Restrictions will not be imposed that prevent meaningful access to residents.

VISITOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Visitors are expected to:

- Follow facility policies and procedures
- Perform hand hygiene upon entry
- Follow infection control instructions
- Treat residents, staff, and other visitors with respect

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Staff will:

- Facilitate visitation consistent with resident rights
- Provide infection control education to visitors
- Ensure compliance with visitation policies
- Support safe visitation practices

DESIGNATED PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY COMPLIANCE

The Administrator is responsible for:

- Ensuring staff adherence to visitation policies
- Monitoring infection control compliance
- Providing education to staff and visitors
- Updating policies as regulations change

DOCUMENTATION

- Essential caregiver designations will be documented in the resident record.
- Any visitation incidents or behavioral concerns will be documented in accordance with facility policy.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as needed to remain compliant with AHCA regulations.

Effective Date: 4/16/2026

Review Date: 4/16/2026