



Indiana State Department of Health

Long-term Care Facility Visitation FAQ

What kind of visitation is being allowed?

Outdoor visitation is now required in facilities without a new facility-onset COVID-19 case within the last 14 days, if certain facility and community conditions exist and as weather permits.

Indoor visits may resume as of July 4, in facilities without a new facility-onset COVID-19 case within the last 14 days, if certain facility and community conditions exist.

More details on visitation can be found in [Visitation Guidelines for Long-term Care Facilities](#) (updated 10/20/20)

What types of facilities are covered by the visitation guidance?

The guidance pertains to all long-term care facilities licensed by ISDH – nursing homes and residential care facilities, or licensed assisted living.

Will there be scheduled hours for the outdoor visitation?

Yes, but the facility will set those hours and the schedule may change, based on inclement weather and resident safety.

Must I wear a mask for visits, even with social distancing?

Yes, a face covering or mask must be worn during the entire visitation. The guidance discusses other visitor requirements, and the facility may require other reasonable precautions to protect the residents.

Is the visitation open for all ages?

Yes, if infection prevention measures are followed. Children under 2 are not required to wear a mask per CDC guidance.

Can I bring food?

Yes, you can bring food for someone, but you cannot share food with the resident (e.g., you cannot both eat from the same bag of chips). Also, if the resident has a dietary restriction (e.g., can only have soft foods or cannot eat certain types of food) then the food must meet these

restrictions. If you are unsure if your loved one has food restrictions contact the facility ahead of time to learn what is allowed.

Is there any other visitation allowed now?

Yes, there is an exception for visitors for compassionate care situations, such as end of life. These exceptions are made case by case and should weigh the risk of viral transmission with the need for compassionate end-of-life care. More details on family visitation for end-of-life situations can be found [here](#).

What if I am wrongly denied visitation with my loved one?

If you believe you have been wrongly denied visitation, or you have questions that aren't answered by these FAQs or the guidance, you may email us at familyoutreach@isdh.in.gov or leave a voice message at (317) 233-7176. This email address and phone line are dedicated to concerns about COVID-19 information, communication, and visitation with loved ones in long term care facilities. For other concerns or complaints, please contact our Complaints Program at (317) 233-7241 or complaints@isdh.in.gov.

(Updated 10/30/2020)