

Arizona Department of Health Services

Visitation Overview

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH SERVICES

White House Gating Criteria

1. **Symptoms:** States must have a downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses reported within a 14-day period *and* a downward trajectory of covid-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period.
2. **Cases:** States must have a downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period *or* a downward trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (flat or increasing volume of tests).
3. **Hospitals:** States must be able to treat all patients without crisis care and have robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including emerging antibody testing.

**States must demonstrate meeting the metrics again to move to the next phase*



White House Gating Criteria Visitation in LTC Settings

Phase One: *Visitation is generally prohibited, except for compassionate care situations.* In those limited situations, visitors are screened and additional precautions are taken, including social distancing, and hand hygiene (e.g., use alcohol-based hand rub upon entry). All visitors wear a cloth face covering or facemask for the duration of their visit.

Phase Two: Due to the elevated risk COVID-19 poses to the health of nursing home residents, *visitation is still generally prohibited, except for compassionate care situations.* In those limited situations, visitors are screened and additional precautions are taken, including social distancing, and hand hygiene (e.g., use alcohol-based hand rub upon entry). All visitors wear a cloth face covering or facemask for the duration of their visit.

Phase Three: *Visitation allowed with screening and additional precautions* including ensuring social distancing and hand hygiene (e.g., use alcohol-based hand rub upon entry). All visitors must a cloth face covering or facemask for the duration of their visit.



CMS Guidance Regarding Visitation in Skilled Nursing

CMS does not recommend opening facilities to visitors (except for compassionate care situations) until phase **three** when:

- No new, nursing home *onset* COVID-19 cases in the nursing home for 28 days (through phases one and two)
- The nursing home is not experiencing staff shortages
- The nursing home has adequate supplies of personal protective equipment and essential cleaning and disinfection supplies to care for residents
- The nursing home has adequate access to testing for COVID-19
- Referral hospital(s) have bed capacity on wards and intensive care units



CMS Guidance Regarding Visitation in Skilled Nursing

CMS encourages any decisions to relax requirements within nursing homes to be made after a careful review of facility-level, community, and state factors/orders as well as in collaboration with state and local health officials and nursing homes. Additionally, state and local officials should consider the following as a part of a comprehensive reopening plan:

- Case status in surrounding community
- Case status in the nursing home(s)
- Staffing levels
- Access to adequate testing for residents and staff
- Personal Protective Equipment supplies
- Local hospital capacity



Decision Points

- State or County - CMS allows for flexibility
- Distinguish between indoor and outdoor visitation
- Define “essential” and “non-essential,” visitation
- Distinguish between different settings
- Other



Thank You

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