



COVID Visitation Protocols August 25, 2021

As Massachusetts ends its State of Emergency The Guild has reviewed its visitation protocols to reflect the updated Residential and Congregate Care Programs 2019 Novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) Guidance issued on June 14, 2021. On August 10, 2021, this guidance was updated to reflect policy changes across the country and news about the Delta variants. This updated guidance continues to allow for both on-site and off-site visitation consistent with pre-COVID protocols excepting when there is potential COVID exposure at the homes and eliminates the need for attestation forms. This guidance now requires that all visitors, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated wear a mask at all times when visitors indoors.

ON-SITE VISITATION

On-site visits should be scheduled in advance with the residential manager to ensure the resident is available for and prepared for the visit and that other visitors are not already scheduled to visit the home at the same time. Visits can occur at the designated indoor and outdoor visitation areas. Visitors will be required to sign in upon arrival all the homes and answer COVID screening questions. All visitors will be required to wear masks while visiting inside the home.

Visitation will be restricted if the person to be visited has tested positive, is quarantining, is presumed positive or if the visitor has tested positive. Visitation will also be restricted if there is a COVID-19 outbreak at the setting. Programs should follow the guidance issued by their funding and licensing agencies regarding visitation and restrictions of all non-essential personnel found in the EOHHS Visitation Guidance website.

Visitors may bring food or a meal for the resident to enjoy either indoors or outdoors. If the visitors are going to share the meal, necessitating removal of their masks, the food or drink must be shared outdoors.

On-site visits should continue to be planned in advance with the residential manager to ensure only one indoors visit occurs in each residence at a time. Homes must keep a log of all visitors, including name, contact information, date and time of visit and COVID screening responses.

OFF-SITE VISITATION

Off-site visits should also be scheduled in advance with the residential manager to ensure the resident is prepared for the visit and all medication needed for the visit are packed in accordance with MAP requirements.

- Individuals may go with family for an off-site visit, including an overnight visits, provided the resident and visitor are not currently under isolation because they are presumed or confirmed COVID-19 positive or quarantined because of close or household contact. The resident and visitor(s) must not have signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and must not have a temperature of >100.0 ° F.