

Other States: Resident Visitation during COVID-19

Task Force on Long-Term Care



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Purpose of Presentation:

- Provide up-to-date research and information on what other state or local guidance has recommended to **Long-Term Care Facilities, Assisted Living Facilities, Assisted Living Homes, and Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs)** to implement in regard to visitations between residents and guests.



Indoor Visitation



Outdoor Visitation



Summary of Measures Taken



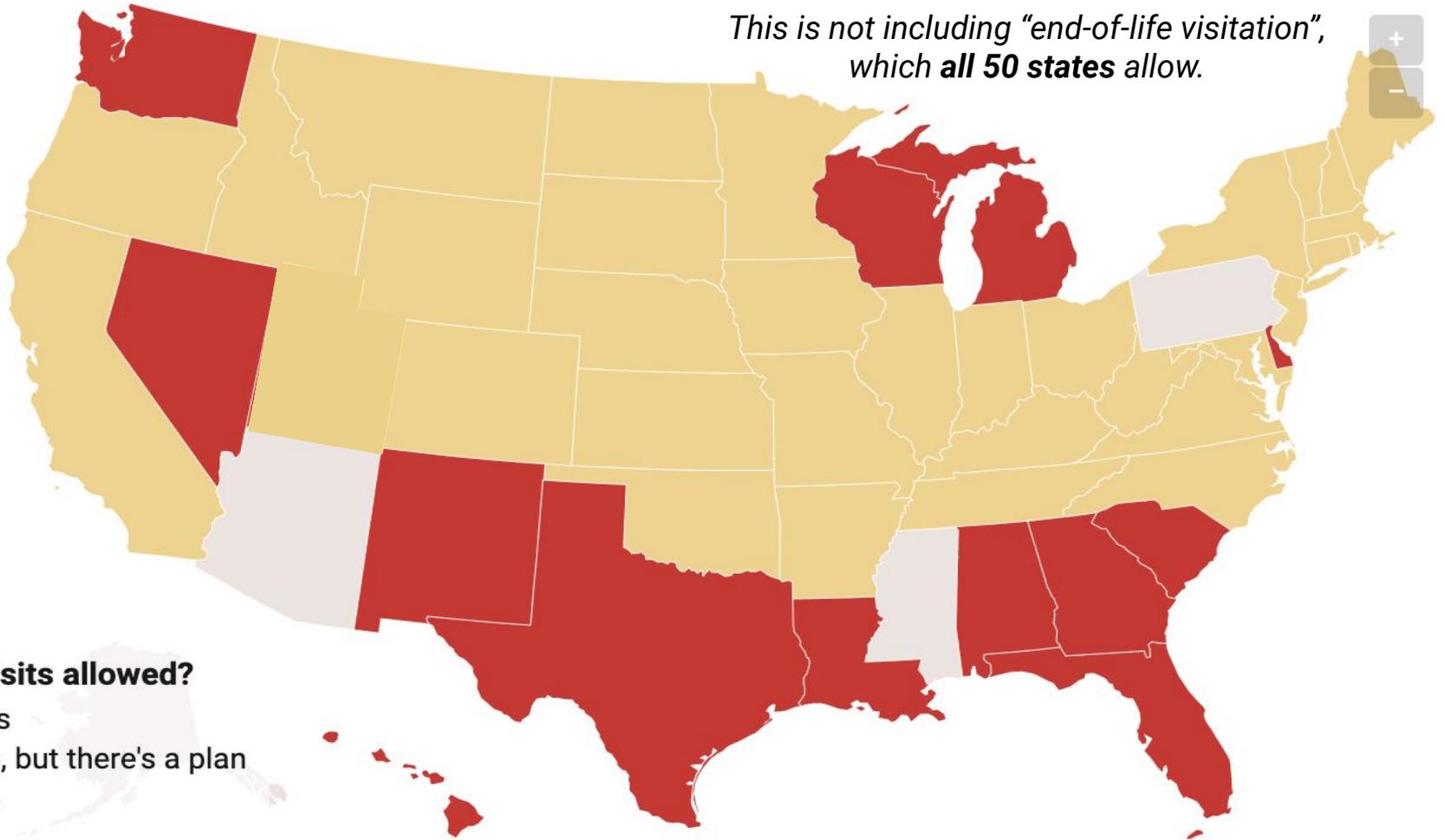
End-of-Life Situations (compassionate care visitation)

*This is not including "end-of-life visitation",
which **all 50 states** allow.*



Are visits allowed?

33	Yes
4	No, but there's a plan
13	No

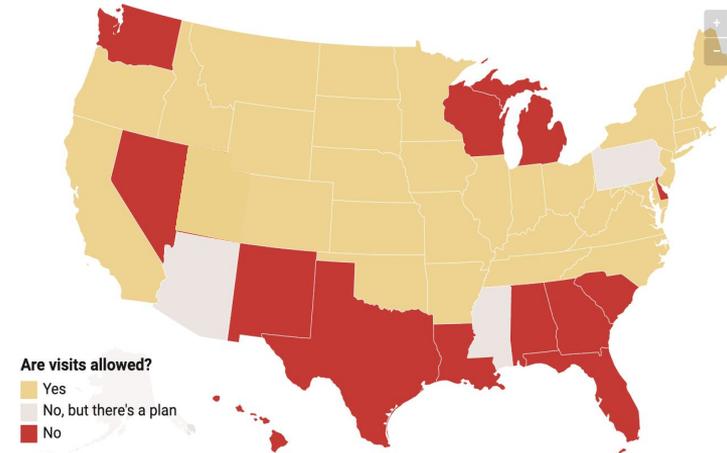


States with Visitation Guidance

- Data demonstrates that the states who have guidance in place came from the state level in coordination with their department of health/medical leaders. However, accountability is led by local governments or the individual facilities.
- State guidance is largely split between allowing outdoor-only and indoor visitation. However, several states allowing indoor visitation **encourage outdoor visitation**, if possible.

- **End-of-Life Indoor Visitations** - 50 states
- **Outdoor Visitation Only** - 18 States
- **Indoor Visitation**, including outdoor - 15 States

many indoor visitations must reach a certain phase **or criteria before occurring



Visitation

Outdoor Only:

- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Iowa
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts *(offer off-site visitation with strict circumstances)*
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- New Hampshire *(unless resident is bedridden)*
- New Jersey
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oregon *(will be considering indoor very soon)*
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- Wyoming

Indoor and Outdoor:

- Arkansas
- California
- Indiana
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Montana
- Nebraska [HERE](#)
- New York *(only for assisted living homes and ICFs, not facilities which is just outdoor)*
- North Carolina *(only for assisted living homes with 7 or less beds)*
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Virginia *(only specific circumstances)*
- West Virginia

Other States: Family Visitation									
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1	State	Long-Term Care Facilities	Assisted Living Facilities OR HOMES	Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs)	STATE or CITY/COUNTY	End-of-life visitation	Link:	Additional links/comments, if needed:	
1	Alabama	If meet criteria, all facilities may allow visitation outdoors will be following CMS guidance and will refer direction from state and local officials when making decisions about relaxing restrictions.			STATE	YES	http://www.health.state.al.us		
2	Arkansas	If meet criteria, all facilities may allow visitor (indoor and/or outdoor)			STATE	YES	https://www.health.arkansas.gov		
4	California	One visitor per resident for inside facility visitation must meet ALL accompanying case conditions in the community, case status in the facility, adequate staffing, access to adequate testing, an approved COVID-19 Mitigation Plan If one or more conditions is not met, then outdoor visitation is recommended. If indoor areas are used for visitation, use a room with good ventilation (e.g. windows open), consider using a physical divider (e.g., glass or clear plastic), in addition to wearing contact and maintaining physical distancing. Outdoor is encouraged.			STATE	YES	https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs	Specifies that the facility should follow up with visitors and residents if either party begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 following	
5	LA County				CITY/COUNTY	YES	http://publichealth.lacounty.gov		
6	Colorado	Same guidance across the board. Allows both indoor and outdoor visitation if conditions are met. If meet criteria, outdoor visitation encouraged when possible while social distancing and wearing masks; number of visitors dictated by individual facilities.			STATE	YES	https://www19.colorado.gov	Colorado's guidance stands for 3 reasons: one interesting is a "Social Distancing Calculator" that provides an on-site estimate for an outdoor space at a given time. Additionally, Colorado's guidance offers services comparable long-term -- including Independent Living	
7	Connecticut				STATE	YES	https://portal.ct.gov/medh1		
8	Idaho	Visitation allowed if no COVID-19 cases among residents or staff in past 28 days, adequate PPE for three days, etc.; Visitors should schedule visit, limit number of visitors, proper screening, designated visitation days, encourage outdoor visitation			CITY/COUNTY	YES	https://www.idaho.gov		
9	Illinois	Outdoor visitation allowed if criteria met; number of visitors per day to be set by facility; number of visitors and residents at one time dependent on size of outdoor space; two visitors per resident per visit; visitors must schedule visitation, social distancing			STATE	YES	https://www.dhs.illinois.gov	https://www.sprinklr.com/case/medhennet/1019n_DHW7TC9r0eA/PLG0v0A00d0d0d0	
10	Indiana	Facilities not under restriction and meet criteria MUST allow outdoor visitation and is allowed to have indoor visitation; facilities must have minimum 4 hours daily of visitation including evenings and weekends, masks and social distancing			STATE	YES	https://www.in.gov	This is GREAT! They have created an easy to read guidance specific	
11	Iowa	Each facility may move to different phase of reopening when meeting criteria; depending on phase, facilities may allow visitors to schedule visitation in designated visitation area; preference given to outdoor visitation; limit number of visitors per resident each week			STATE	YES	https://www.ios.gov/Policies		
12	Kansas	Phased approach by facility (see below). First two phases only compassionate care permitted; Phase 3 visitation allowed with face masks and social distancing; outdoor/indoor			STATE	YES	https://www.kidsiaa.org		
			ICFs include SNF's and Nursing homes; Visitation allowed with proper social distancing and no facility visited COVID-19 cases among staff and residents in past 28 days; visits are to be scheduled; 2 visitors per resident limit; establish non-residential area for visitation both outdoors and indoors; visitors wear mask and not allowed in resident's room		STATE	YES	https://www.ky.gov/STATE	References the need to disinfect any items present in the visitation	
14	Maine	Facilities may allow outdoor visitation only, as long as there have been no new COVID cases in past 14 days; visitation must be scheduled in advance; facilities may limit length of visit and frequency; no mask or anything that requires removal of face covering; social distancing measures			STATE	YES	https://www.maine.gov/health	Specifies that the facility should follow up with visitors and residents if either party begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 following	
15	Maryland	Facility allowed visitation as long as no new cases in facility in past 14 days along with meeting other criteria; limited outdoor only visitation; face covering and social distance; recommended no more than 2 visitors per resident at any time			STATE	YES	https://www.dhsa.health.maryland.gov	Specifies that the facility should follow up with visitors and residents if either party begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 following	
16		Same as assisted living; additional guidance includes: distancing and PPE however the facility may limit visit to no fewer than 30 minutes; electronic communication still visits are offered no fewer than 5 days per week and recommended outdoor visitation			STATE	YES			

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1	State	Long-Term Care Facilities	Assisted Living Facilities OR HOMES	Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs)	STATE or CITY/COUNTY	End-of-life visitation	Link:	Additional links/comments, if needed:	
17	Minnesota	Visitation allowed outdoors with established visitation schedule; mask and social distancing required; outdoor visitation areas must be available without leaving visitors enter facility.			STATE	YES	https://www.health.state.mn.us		
18	Mississippi	Visitation only allowed if supervising health professionals consider it safe; electronic visitation encouraged			STATE	YES	https://www.dhhs.ms.gov		
19	Missouri	Visitation allowed when facility has not had COVID-19 cases onset in facility in 28 days; Outdoor visitation; allow up to two visitors per resident with social distancing; face covering and hand hygiene; recommendations based on CMS guidance			STATE	YES	https://health.mo.gov/visits		
20	Montana	Visitation guidance follows CMS and CDC guidance; both indoor and/or outdoor; but encourage outdoor if indoor; it must be well ventilated and in the residents room			STATE	YES	https://dhs.mt.gov/Policies		
21	Nebraska	Visitation at long-term care facilities depends on the local health director's phase status as well as meeting certain requirements; For those facilities that can enforce indoor visitation, visits will be scheduled during specified hours; Outdoor visits are encouraged when possible			CITY/COUNTY	YES	http://rights.nc.gov/visits		
22	New Hampshire	Outdoor visitation is permitted; Indoor for very specific situations such as if the resident is at end of life, or cannot physically make it outside (bed room)			STATE	YES	https://www.dhs.nh.gov	Specifies that the facility should follow up with visitors and residents, post-visit, to check to see if either party begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 following the visit	
23	New Jersey	At facilities that meet certain requirements, visitors may schedule outdoor visits only during specified hours and on a limited basis			STATE	YES	https://its.governor.state.nj.us		
24	New York	At facilities that meet certain requirements, visitors may schedule indoor visits during specified hours and on a limited basis; Outdoor visits are encouraged when possible. Each resident will be allowed two visitors at a time, and at least one of these visitors must be at least 18 years old.			STATE	YES	https://health.ny.gov/policies		
25	North Carolina	IF YOU HAVE 7 BEDS OR MORE: At facilities that have decided to reopen and meet certain requirements, visitors may schedule outdoor visits during specified hours IF YOU HAVE <7 BEDS: options for indoor and outdoor visitation is available			STATE	YES	https://www.dhs.nc.gov	7 beds: https://www.dhs.nc.gov 4-6 beds: https://www.dhs.nc.gov	
26	North Dakota	All facilities, that have met criteria may schedule outdoor visits during specified hours, and indoor visits are open to facilities that have met certain reopening protocols. This is done in a phased approach based off of criteria met			STATE	YES	https://www.health.nd.gov		
27	Ohio	Homes may permit residents to have visitors in outdoor settings, so long as safety standards are met			STATE	YES	https://www.ohio.gov/newsroom/news/outdoor-visit-allowed-living-intermediate-care	https://www.ohio.gov/newsroom/news/outdoor-visit-allowed-living-intermediate-care	
28	Oklahoma	At ICF facilities that have decided to reopen and meet certain requirements, visitors may schedule visits during specified hours. Outdoor visits are encouraged when possible			COUNTY	YES	https://www.ok.gov/health		
29	Oregon	At facilities that have decided to reopen and meet certain requirements, visitors may schedule outdoor visits during specified hours; Indoor will be evaluated once Oregon has reached phase three			STATE	YES	https://www.oregon.gov/ohca		
30	Pennsylvania	SEE HERE	SEE HERE; applies to both		STATE	YES	https://www.media.pa.gov	Allows providers to prioritize residents who demonstrate cognitive decline or symptoms of depression and loneliness	
31	Rhode Island	At facilities that have decided to reopen and meet certain requirements, visitors deemed to be "essential to the resident's physical and emotional well-being and care" may schedule visits during specified hours; Outdoor visits are encouraged when possible			STATE	YES	https://www.ri.gov/press-releases	Specifies that the facility should follow up with visitors and residents, post-visit, to check to see if either party begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 following the visit	
32	South Dakota	Please see link to see details, three phases, outlines when, why, and how many visitors are permitted after meeting certain criteria (Indoor and outdoor visits allowed)			STATE	YES	https://dhs.sd.gov/documents	Rhode Island's guidance offers detail on managing limits for outdoor visitation space, and also provides "situation plan" parameters if the community must restrict visitation permissions due to increased COVID-19 cases	
33	Tennessee	Indoor and outdoor visits may take place in a resident's room if the visitor documents a negative test result for coronavirus within 72 hours before the visit.			STATE	YES		Interesting chart	
34	Utah	n/a	Allowing outdoor and indoor visitation with conditions		STATE	YES	https://www.utah.gov/download	Utah's guidance states that facility's should have visitors to provide their own masks	

The next two slides will be a combination, or summary, of what kind of guidelines that states have put in place for visitation.

- NO state had the same guidance
- Not every state classifies homes, facilities, ICFs, etc. the same
- In many cases, nursing homes/assisted living homes opened before large facilities/centers

Other States: Visitation Guidance Summary

Outdoor Visits Only: Some guidance includes ensuring that residents can safely travel to and from a designated outdoor setting, that the setting is **protected from climate** and **sun exposure**, and that the **setting is properly disinfected** between visits.

COVID-19 Requirements: The majority of states will only allow the resumption of visitation provided that the community has **no new facility-onset cases of COVID-19** in past X days, and provides that the residents and guests who are visiting have **not tested positive for COVID-19** and are **not showing any symptoms** of COVID-19.

Visitor Requirements: Each state's guidance delineates specific criteria that visitors must meet in order to visit a resident in care facility/home, some including:

- **Must be screened for symptoms and exposure to COVID-19;**
- Visitors are limited in number (typically 2 or fewer) and visits must be scheduled in advance with the facility;
- **Visitors should wear PPE and practice the universal COVID-19 precautions as put forth by the CDC (washing hands, maintaining 6ft. distance, avoiding physical contact, wearing a face covering, etc.);**
- Some states restrict visitors by age (12 or older); others permit children to visit under supervision of parents, provided they abide by the other visitor requirements.

Other States: Visitation Guidance Summary Cont'd

Resident Requirements:

- Should be screened prior to the visit to ensure they are not exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19;
- Should wear a mask, if tolerated and able, for the duration of the visit, while maintaining social distancing.

Facility Requirements: Some states are requiring several key steps from the facility in order to resume outdoor and/or indoor visitation:

- Set up and manage a schedule for visitation; many states permit the facility to limit the length of visits and frequency depending on facility needs and staffing capacity;
- Should assign staff members/caregivers to assist residents to and from the designated visitation space and maintain observation of proper precautions while providing space for confidentiality;
- The facility should provide the space, PPE, and alcohol-based hand rub for residents and visitors;
- The facility should thoroughly disinfect the visitation space between scheduled visits, and should ensure proper ventilation and accessibility;
- Visitors should be able to access the outdoor visitation space without having to enter any indoor areas of the facility (for outdoor-only visitation)
- *Indoor guidance is largely split between suggesting visits to occur in the resident's room and having a designated non-residential area for visitation.

Thank You!

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