



Indoor Visitation and Activities Policy

Purpose

Prairie Bluffs Senior Living understands that balancing COVID-19 safety and visitation restrictions with the well-being of residents. Social isolation as a result of COVID-19 visitor restrictions is a significant concern and an issue that requires close cooperation between Prairie Bluffs Senior Living, visitors, and local and state public health to address it safely and successfully.

Prairie Bluffs Senior Living is guided by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/lvcvisit.pdf> and will follow the outlined procedures for a safe indoor visitation and activities to be effective October 17, 2020.

The Executive Director is responsible for identifying when indoor visitations must be suspended, which is subject to change based on a variety of factors.

MDH long-term care visitation and activities levels

MDH has provided indoor visitation and activities guidance for home care and assisted living communities in Minnesota in adjusting restrictions while maintaining high standards for COVID-19 safety for residents, staff, and visitors.

- There have been no new community (residents or staff) COVID-19 cases in the last 14 days.
- Visitation and Activity Guidance for Counties with High Positivity Rate (>10%):
 - High-risk category (>10%): Visitation should only occur for essential caregiver and compassionate care situations according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and community policies.
 - Allowable visits only include compassionate care visits, essential caregivers, outdoor, and window visits.
 - No visitation by any visitor or non-essential health care personnel are permitted.
- Visitation and Activity Guidance for Counties with Low or Medium Positivity Rate:
 - Low-risk category (<5%): People who wish to visit should be allowed to do so, according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and community policies.
 - Medium-risk category (5%–10%): People who wish to visit should be allowed to do so, according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and community policies.
 - Compassionate care visits, essential caregivers, outdoor, and window visits are all allowed.
 - In addition, the community may allow in person, non-essential visits when protocols are put in place.
 - **If Prairie Bluffs Senior Living has a known exposure by a resident or staff, it will immediately suspend all non-essential indoor visits for a minimum of 14 days.**

Procedure



Indoor Visitation and Activities Policy

1. Testing Plan

- a. A written testing plan that addresses ongoing testing and includes a plan for continued testing of symptomatic staff and residents is located the ED office.
- b. Prairie Bluffs Senior Living will test all residents or staff with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and follow [MDH guidance for LTC testing](#).
- c. The community will make their testing plan available when requested by MDH or other interested persons.

2. Mandatory Indoor Visitation

Prairie Bluffs Senior Living will have visitation if:

- a. No COVID-positive staff and/or resident case for past 14 days
- b. Case activity level in community has a case rate of $\leq 10\%$ over a 2-week period.
 - i. See Policy for Calculating County Positivity Rate
- c. A staffing plan is in place and is located in the ED office.
- d. Adequate access to PPE for staff is sufficient
- e. Local hospital capacity is available if needed VP of Clinical Services to Review weekly.

3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Social Distancing

- a. Residents should wear cloth face coverings as tolerated
- b. Compassionate Care and Essential Caregivers will wear the same PPE as staff, this may include the use of surgical masks and protective eyewear that covers the front and sides of the eyes - depending on the nature of the visit.
- c. The community will provide PPE to Compassionate Care and Essential Caregivers
 - i. Goggles will be provided by the community for use, they will be sanitized after each use
- d. Visitors must always wear a cloth face covering or facemask
- e. All visitors should maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet
- f. Visitors failing to properly utilize PPE and/or social distancing will not be eligible for future visits

4. Visitor Screening/Check in Process

- a. All visitors must enter the building through the front door (Main Entrance), and immediately check in at the Front Desk/Nursing Office for their screening prior to each visit.
- b. All visitors must perform hand hygiene at the Front Desk/Nursing Office before proceeding to visitation
- c. All visitors will be screened by staff for temperature and other signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Visitors who do not pass the screening will be prohibited from visiting.
- d. At each visit, visitors will sign and date a visit form indicating their understanding of the visitor requirements and rules



Indoor Visitation and Activities Policy

- e. At each visit, visitors will provide name and phone number in case contract tracing is necessary.

5. Visitation

- a. Visits need to be scheduled ahead of time with no more than one visit per day. There can be no more than 2 visitors per visit and a visit can last no longer than 30 minutes in length. Each visitor is required to sign the Visitor Acknowledgement Risk Form, this form accepts the potential risk of visiting our community. Visits can be scheduled through the Front Desk and will be kept in a planner at the front desk. Due to Assisted Living being a high-risk environment, we can allow no more than 2 visitors into the community at a time. This will allow us to provide the correct PPE and a clean and sanitized visitation area that is safe for our residents, staff and visitors.
- b. After screening, visitors must wear the appropriate PPE and go directly to the designated area. Visits can only be between the resident and their visitor; visits should not include other residents or staff in the community.

6. Triggers for Suspending Indoor Visitation

- a. Visitors will be prohibited if a resident or staff is COVID-19 positive or symptomatic – exceptions may be made for essential caregivers and compassionate care visits
- b. Visiting rights may be restricted or revoked for individuals if communicated safety measures are not followed
- c. Visiting rights will be revoked for visitors if they are COVID-19 positive or are exhibiting signs or symptoms of COVID-19
- d. County positivity rates exceed 10%
- e. The community experiences a case of COVID from a resident or a staff member

- 7. **COVID-19 positive resident admissions or conversions during initial 14-day quarantine period.** Residents admitted to the community with a COVID-19 positive diagnosis or new admissions who become COVID-19 positive while in their 14-day quarantine period will not “count” against visitor restrictions if safe cohorting procedures are in place; in other words, these positive cases will not result in new restrictions to indoor visitation.

8. Concerns with Visitation Modification Policy can be directed to:

- a. (612) 930-7056 – Executive Director – Katie Gillman
- b. Exceptions to policy must be approved by Executive Director or Director of Nursing
- c. Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care at 651-431-2555 or 1-800-657-3591 to request advocacy services.