



ECH Visitation Guidelines* as of February 11, 2022

Skilled Nursing:

Per the New York State Department of Health (DOH) guidance, Episcopal Church Home's visitation policies are as follows, effective February 11, 2022.

- Scheduling visits with residents is no longer required. Visitors may come to ECH seven days a week, preferably during the hours of 9am-8pm.
- All visitors will continue to be screened for symptoms and/or potential exposure to COVID-19, as well as have their temperature taken. For the purpose of potential contact tracing, we'll also need to document the visitor's name, address, telephone number, email address, and the date and time of the visit.
- **All visitors must wear a medical face mask covering their mouth and nose when entering the building.** If a resident is on precautions, visitors are still allowed but must wear the appropriate PPE (i.e., gowns, gloves, face shields). ECH will provide these items as well as any assistance that is needed with donning and doffing.
- Visitors must verify that they have received a negative SARS-CoV-2 test result one day prior to visitation for antigen tests and two days prior to visitation for NAAT (e.g. PCR) tests. All visitors may use either NAAT testing or antigen testing. This means, for example, that a test for a Sunday visit should be conducted no earlier than Saturday if it's an antigen test or Friday if it's a PCR test. Any PCR or antigen test used must either have Emergency Use Authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or be operating per the Laboratory Developed Test requirements by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- **Positive Results and Infection within Prior 90 Days:**
 - If a visitor tests positive, they should be excluded until they meet the CDC criteria for discontinuing isolation for the general public (i.e., currently for five days) and present a negative test.
 - If a visitor has had COVID in the past 90 days, he/she must still be tested. If they test positive, they must be excluded.

- ECH requests that all visitors be vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccination is requested, but not required. If you are having trouble getting vaccinated, let us know and we can help you get an appointment.
- If visitors do not meet all of the screening criteria, they may not visit. If visitors are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention, they will be asked to leave and their visitation will be suspended.
- Two visitors are preferred at a time per resident per visit to maintain physical distance as much as possible within the confines of the room or visiting area. Visitors should coordinate with other family members so that there is minimal overlap.
- The recommended but not required time limit for visits is no longer than 2 hours.
- Per the guidance, families may visit their loved ones in their rooms if they have a private room.
- For those residents in semi-private rooms, there are designated visitation rooms for you to visit your loved one in (Room 200, Serenity Room, Lobby, Chapel). If your loved one, or your loved one's roommate is unable to leave the room due to physical or psychosocial reasons, the visit can take place in the resident's room. Visitors are to remain on their loved one's side of the room socially distanced from resident's roommate.
- The guidance requires limited visitor movement throughout the building. Visitors must go directly to and from the resident's room or visiting area. However, visitors may bring their loved ones outdoors if the resident chooses and weather permits. Visitors must go directly to the outdoor area, and then directly back to the resident's room.
- Visitors must maintain a social distance of six feet from anyone other than their loved one (i.e., other residents' visitors and staff).
- Compassionate care visits will be allowed at all times, regardless of the resident's vaccination status, the county's COVID-19 positivity rate, or an outbreak. Again, if the resident is on isolation precautions, visitors must wear the appropriate PPE during their visit.
- Virtual visits may still be scheduled on Thursdays by contacting Jessica Shiltz at (585) 546-8439 x3432. Virtual visits should be reserved for those family members who live out of town and are unable to visit residents in person. Or for those that are unable to visit their loved one due to COVID precautions. We highly encourage visitors to use their own technology (cell phones, tablets, laptops) to Zoom or FaceTime with loved ones whenever they wish, as well as to include out-of-town relatives during their visits.

*All guidelines are subject to community positivity rate/ Department of Health guidance

*Visitor guidelines will be determined by the community prevalence rate.