



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

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Emergency Order Visitation Limits at Residential, Skilled Nursing and Long-term Care Facilities

Today, at the direction of Governor Ron DeSantis, Florida Division of Emergency Management Director Jared Moskowitz issued an [Emergency Order](#) tightening the temporary restrictions for all individuals entering residential and long-term care facilities.

For the next 30 days, all individuals will be prohibited from entering:

- Nursing homes;
- Assisted living facilities;
- Group home facilities;
- Developmental disabilities centers;
- Homes for special services;
- Long-term care hospitals;
- Transitional living facilities;
- Intermediate care facilities for the developmentally disabled;
- Adult mental health and treatment facilities;
- Adult forensic facilities;
- Civil facilities; and
- Adult family care homes.

Limited exceptions will apply:

- Family members and friends during end of life situations;
- Hospice or palliative care workers caring for residents in end-of-life situations;
- Any individual providing necessary health care to a resident;
- Facility staff;
- Facility residents;
- Attorneys of records for residents in adult mental health facilities for court related matters if virtual or telephone means are unavailable; and

- Representatives of the state and federal government seeking entry as part of their official duties, including, but not limited to, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program, representatives of the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, the Department of Elderly Affairs, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, protection and advocacy organizations under 42 U.S.C. s. 15041, the Office of the Attorney General, any law enforcement officer, and any emergency medical personnel.

Further, any of these individuals seeking entry into the facility under a limited exception will not be allowed into the facility if they meet any of the screening criteria below:

- Any person infected with COVID-19 who has not had two consecutive negative test results separated by 24 hours;
- Any person showing, presenting signs or symptoms of, disclosing the presence of a respiratory infection, including, cough, fever, shortness of breath, or sore throat;
- Any person who has been in contact with any person(s) known to be infected with COVID-19, or a close contact of someone known to be infected with COVID-19 within the past 14 days;
- Any person who traveled through any airport within the past 14 days; or
- Any person who traveled on a cruise ship within the last 14 days.

In addition, the facility must discourage residents from leaving the facility. Residents returning to the facility will be screened for the above criteria before allowed reentry.

Please note that **ALL facilities** must also keep documentation of all individuals screened at the facility. Documentation may be done on a standardized questionnaire or form. The documentation must include:

- Name of the individual;
- Date and time of entry; and
- The documentation used by the facility to screen the individual showing the individual did not meet any of the screening criteria, including the name and signature of the screening employee.

The full Emergency Order is available here:

https://ahca.myflorida.com/docs/DEM_ORDER_NO.20-006_In_re_COVID-19_Public_Health_Emergency_Issued_March_15_2020.pdf

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