

Caregiver Program Guidelines

Caregiver is a type of essential visitor who is designated by the resident and/or their substitute decision maker and is visiting to provide direct care to the resident (e.g., supporting feeding, mobility, personal hygiene, cognitive stimulation, communication, meaningful connection, relations continuity and assistance in decision-making). In many cases, caregivers include family members who provide meaningful connection, privately hired caregivers, paid companions and translators.

Caregiver Expectations:

- Caregivers must provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result within the previous two weeks and every two weeks thereafter.
- Caregivers are also required to verbally attest to the home that, in the last 14 days, they have not visited another:
 - Resident who is self-isolating or symptomatic; and/ or
 - Home in an outbreak
- Caregivers must complete and pass active screening upon each entry to the home.
- Upon arrival in the resident home area, the caregiver will sign in at the Caregiver Visitor Log at the nursing station. This log is on a yellow piece of paper.
- The decision to designate an individual as a caregiver is entirely that of the resident and/or their substitute decision maker.
- A **maximum of two caregivers** may be designated per resident at a time.
- A maximum of two caregivers per resident may visit at a time.
- Caregivers must be at least 18 years of age.
- A resident and/or their substitute decision-maker may change a designation in response to a change in the:
 - Resident's care needs that are reflected in the plan of care.
 - Availability of a designated caregiver, either on a temporary (e.g., illness) or permanent basis.
- The caregiver must wear a surgical/procedural mask appropriately (covering nose and mouth) at all times. Meticulous hand hygiene must be maintained throughout the visit as well as adherence to all IPAC requirements.
- The caregiver must only visit with their resident.
- Caregivers do not require visits to be scheduled and are not restricted to the length or frequency of visits.
- Six-foot distancing is not required for a caregiver and their resident. However, the essential caregiver must maintain six-foot physical distancing from all other residents and staff.
- Visiting with the resident may occur in the resident's room or the east garden (maintaining six-foot physical distancing from all other residents and staff) only.
- The caregiver may assist in the dining room or approved area with their resident only and then must return to their resident's room or east garden for the remainder of their visit. Visitors are to avoid other resident and staff space.
- Caregivers must double-bag any outside items being brought into the home and check items in with the screener for proper disinfection prior to floor delivery.
- Caregivers must exit the home through the front entrance after completing active screening when concluding their visit.

I acknowledge that I have received the caregiver guidelines and have reviewed education resources, including information/training on hand hygiene, personal protective equipment, signs and symptoms of COVID-19, and physical distancing guidelines.

I understand that failure to comply with the policies of the home, public health recommendations, and guidelines provided in this document will result in discontinuation of my caregiver privileges.

I understand that by complying with the caregiver guidelines, I, my loved one and others will reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19.



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*I commit to review and re-read the home's visitor policy and **Family Visitor Guidelines and Education Resources for COVID-19** each month located on the website or by hard copy obtained from the screener.*

If I have any questions, I understand I can ask any member of the management team.

Essential Caregiver Signature: