

## Consideration for Caregiver Program

A **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.

### Essential Visitors

Visits for essential visitors are permitted as follows, subject to direction from the local public health unit:

- If the local public health unit is in the Green-Prevent or Yellow-Protect level and the home is **not** in an outbreak, **a maximum of two caregivers per resident** may visit at a time.
- If the local public health unit is in the Orange-Restrict, Red-Control or Grey- Lockdown level, or the home **is** in an outbreak, **a maximum of one caregiver per resident** may visit at a time.
- If a resident is self-isolating or symptomatic, a maximum of one caregiver may visit that resident at a time.

A caregiver may not visit any other resident or to the home for 14 days after visiting another:

- Resident who is self-isolating or symptomatic; and/ or
- Home in an outbreak
- Caregivers must provide proof of a COVID 19 negative test as per latest Ministry guidelines contained in the *COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open* prior to the visit based on the public health region designation.
- Caregivers must verbally attest to not subsequently testing positive

	LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT LEVEL				
	Green-Prevent	Yellow-Protect	Orange-Restrict	Red-Control	Grey-Lockdown
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tested every two weeks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tested weekly</li> </ul>		
Students					
Volunteers					
Caregivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result in the past two weeks</li> <li>• Verbally attest to not subsequently testing positive*</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result in the past week</li> <li>• Verbally attest to not subsequently testing positive*</li> </ul>		
Support workers					
General Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result in the past two weeks</li> <li>• Verbally attest to not subsequently testing positive*</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not applicable; visits not permitted.</li> </ul>		
*Unless the support worker or visitor requires immediate access in an emergency or palliative situation.					

- Designated caregivers **must** be submitted in writing to the home by the resident or the substitute decision maker.
- A **maximum of two caregivers** may be designated per resident at a time.
- Caregivers must be at least 18 years of age.
- Caregivers must wear a surgical mask and other PPE, if required, appropriately. The home strongly encourages all visitors to replace their mask with a fresh, medical-grade mask upon entry to the home. Masks will be provided by the home.

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- Meticulous hand hygiene must be maintained throughout the visit as well as adherence to all IPAC requirements. In addition, all PPE as required must be worn or visits will be suspended.
- Caregivers do not require scheduled visits and are not restricted to the length or frequency of visits.
- Six-foot distancing is not required for an essential caregiver and their resident; however, the ***essential caregiver must maintain six-foot physical distancing from all other residents and staff.***
- Caregivers shall go directly to the resident’s room or designated area, remain there for the duration of the visit and exit the home directly afterwards
- Caregivers will only provide care to their loved one and care shall be provided according to the care plan for the resident.
- The caregiver may assist in the dining room with their resident only, and once the meal is completed return to resident’s room.
- Caregivers are not permitted to use electronic devices while in the dining room.
- 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 can bring pets in for visits as long as the home has copies of immunization records on file.
- Essential caregivers will exit the home through the front entrance after completing active screening.

**Note:** During an outbreak, and/or suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, the local public health unit will provide direction on visitors to the home, depending on the specific situation.

**Resident Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Caregiver(s) Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Caregiver Name(s) Submitted in Writing:** YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**Care Service:**

- Direct Care (assisting with eating, bathing, exercise, etc.) - Specify below
- Emotional Support - Specify below
- Cognitive Stimulation - Specify below
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

How often do you expect to be in the home each week (i.e. daily, twice a week)?\_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide additional information below detailing reason for request for consideration for the Essential Caregiver Program:**

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**Request Reviewed By:**

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<input type="checkbox"/> Request Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Request Denied
Reason: _____	
Signature: _____ Date: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family/Caregiver Notified of Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Progress Note added to PCC