

Visitors are currently prohibited at Washington State assisted living facilities.

Visitor restrictions for assisted living facilities come from several sources. This document will be updated regularly to consolidate all current, applicable guidance.

Washington State Governor Jay Inslee, Proclamations 20-06 ([LINK](#)), 20-16 ([LINK](#))

Issued March 10, 2020. Expiration: September 1, 2020 (or until the COVID-19 State of Emergency is terminated, whichever first).

- *Proclamation 20-06 prohibits visitors to most nursing homes and assisted living facilities, allowing for several exceptions. Exceptions include end-of-life situations, visits by attorneys or legal representatives of a resident, and facility vendors or volunteers. Any excepted visitors are subject to screening for symptoms and contact with infected persons. Any excepted visitors must take precautionary measures such as donning protective equipment and practicing social distancing.*
- *Proclamation 20-16 expands 20-06 to apply to more broadly to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and adult family homes.*
- *Variations of Proclamation [20-52](#) have extended Proclamations 20-06 and 20-16. (see [Proc. 20-52.5](#))*

Note: Assisted Living Facilities are not regulated by the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, and are under no obligation to meet the guidance prescribed below. However, we find that many facilities have defaulted to these practices during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, QSO-20-14-NH ([LINK](#)), QSO-20-28-NH ([LINK](#))

Issued March 13, 2020. Expiration: Indefinite.

- *QSO-20-14-NH restricts visitation to nursing homes and describes some allowable circumstances, as well as precautions for excepted visitors.*
- *"Facilities should restrict visitation of all visitors and non-essential health care personnel except for certain compassionate care situations."*
- *"Decisions about visitors entering under compassionate care situations will be made on a case-by-case basis. Visitors should be screened, and facilities should require appropriate hand hygiene and personal protective equipment."*
- *QSO-20-28-NH addresses common questions related to visitation. End-of-life situations are defined by a "sharp decline in health status".*
- *A letter sent by CMS on [April 2](#) further suggests that "All visitors to long-term care facilities must be asked about COVID-19 symptoms and must also have their temperatures checked."*