



Long Term Care Call 2.24.21

This call is not intended for the press or for reporting purposes.

Visitation - *guidance based on the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) revised guidance September 17, 2020 ([QSO-20-39-NH](#))*

- **State of South Dakota Back to Normal Long-Term Care Reopening Plan - Revised September 25, 2020**
- The guidance represents reasonable ways a NH and ALC can facilitate in-person visitation.
- The plan provides guidance to NH and ALC to relax visitor restrictions.
- Visitation may occur safely and based on the community (county) test positivity rate, the absence of COVID-19 within the facility, and the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention.
- Facilities **must** have a plan with policies and procedures in place to ensure person-centered visitation is reasonably allowed and will occur based on the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and the COVID-19 test positivity rate in the community (county).

Community (County) Test Positivity Rate

- Low (<5%) = **Visitation should occur** according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies (**beyond** compassionate care visits)
- Medium (5% – 10%) = **Visitation should occur** according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies (**beyond** compassionate care visits)
- High (>10%) = Visitation should only occur for **compassionate care situations** according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies

Percent Positive and Tests in prior 14 days:

Aurora County, SD	46003 SD	8	2,751 Non-core	27	981	3.7%	Green	1
Beadle County, SD	46005 SD	8	18,453 Micropolitan	46	249	8.7%	Yellow	1
Bennett County, SD	46007 SD	8	3,365 Non-core	55	1,634	1.8%	Green	1
Bon Homme County, SD	46009 SD	8	6,901 Non-core	52	754	5.8%	Yellow	2
Brookings County, SD	46011 SD	8	35,077 Micropolitan	435	1,240	3.4%	Green	2
Brown County, SD	46013 SD	8	38,839 Micropolitan	491	1,264	5.5%	Yellow	5
Brule County, SD	46015 SD	8	5,297 Non-core	27	510	0.0%	Green	2
Buffalo County, SD	46017 SD	8	1,962 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	0
Butte County, SD	46019 SD	8	10,429 Non-core	149	1,429	4.0%	Green	1
Campbell County, SD	46021 SD	8	1,376 Non-core	32	2,326	9.4%	Yellow	0
Charles Mix County, SD	46023 SD	8	9,292 Non-core	101	1,087	7.9%	Yellow	3
Clark County, SD	46025 SD	8	3,736 Non-core	55	1,472	0.0%	Green	1
Clay County, SD	46027 SD	8	14,070 Micropolitan	58	412	5.2%	Yellow	3
Codington County, SD	46029 SD	8	28,009 Micropolitan	91	325	1.1%	Green	2
Corson County, SD	46031 SD	8	4,086 Non-core	26	636	15.4%	Yellow	0
Custer County, SD	46033 SD	8	8,972 Small metro	85	947	10.6%	Yellow	1
Davison County, SD	46035 SD	8	19,775 Micropolitan	235	1,188	4.7%	Green	2
Day County, SD	46037 SD	8	5,424 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	3
Deuel County, SD	46039 SD	8	4,351 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Dewey County, SD	46041 SD	8	5,892 Non-core	23	390	13.0%	Yellow	0
Douglas County, SD	46043 SD	8	2,921 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	2
Edmunds County, SD	46045 SD	8	3,829 Micropolitan	36	940	2.8%	Green	2
Fall River County, SD	46047 SD	8	6,713 Non-core	106	1,579	2.8%	Green	2
Faulk County, SD	46049 SD	8	2,299 Non-core	21	913	4.8%	Green	1
Grant County, SD	46051 SD	8	7,052 Non-core	90	1,276	12.2%	Yellow	2
Gregory County, SD	46053 SD	8	4,185 Non-core	47	1,123	6.4%	Yellow	1
Haakon County, SD	46055 SD	8	1,899 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Hamlin County, SD	46057 SD	8	6,164 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	2
Hand County, SD	46059 SD	8	3,191 Non-core	48	1,504	0.0%	Green	1
Hanson County, SD	46061 SD	8	3,453 Micropolitan	44	1,274	20.5%	Yellow	0
Harding County, SD	46063 SD	8	1,298 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	0
Hughes County, SD	46065 SD	8	17,526 Micropolitan	283	1,615	3.2%	Green	2
Hutchinson County, SD	46067 SD	8	7,291 Non-core	89	1,221	22.5%	Yellow	3
Hyde County, SD	46069 SD	8	1,301 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Jackson County, SD	46071 SD	8	3,344 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Jerauld County, SD	46073 SD	8	2,013 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Jones County, SD	46075 SD	8	903 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	0
Kingsbury County, SD	46077 SD	8	4,939 Non-core	89	1,802	4.5%	Green	2
Lake County, SD	46079 SD	8	12,797 Non-core	76	594	1.3%	Green	1
Lawrence County, SD	46081 SD	8	25,844 Micropolitan	567	2,194	4.2%	Green	1
Lincoln County, SD	46083 SD	8	61,128 Small metro	790	1,292	6.2%	Yellow	3
Lyman County, SD	46085 SD	8	3,781 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	0
Marshall County, SD	46091 SD	8	4,935 Non-core	35	709	5.7%	Yellow	1
McCook County, SD	46087 SD	8	5,586 Small metro	60	1,074	6.7%	Yellow	3
McPherson County, SD	46089 SD	8	2,379 Non-core	229	9,626	0.0%	Green	1
Meade County, SD	46093 SD	8	28,332 Small metro	337	1,189	10.7%	Yellow	1
Mellette County, SD	46095 SD	8	2,061 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Miner County, SD	46097 SD	8	2,216 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Minnehaha County, SD	46099 SD	8	193,134 Small metro	3,790	1,962	4.4%	Green	9
Moody County, SD	46101 SD	8	6,576 Non-core	37	563	10.8%	Yellow	1
Oglala Lakota County, SD	46102 SD	8	14,177 Non-core	30	212	6.7%	Yellow	0
Pennington County, SD	46103 SD	8	113,775 Small metro	1,503	1,321	6.7%	Yellow	9
Perkins County, SD	46105 SD	8	2,865 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Potter County, SD	46107 SD	8	2,153 Non-core	54	2,508	11.1%	Red	1
Roberts County, SD	46109 SD	8	10,394 Non-core	36	346	11.1%	Yellow	2
Sanborn County, SD	46111 SD	8	2,344 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1
Spink County, SD	46115 SD	8	6,376 Non-core	142	2,227	5.6%	Yellow	2
Stanley County, SD	46117 SD	8	3,098 Micropolitan	46	1,485	2.2%	Green	0
Sully County, SD	46119 SD	8	1,391 Micropolitan	29	2,085	3.4%	Green	0
Todd County, SD	46121 SD	8	10,177 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	0
Tripp County, SD	46123 SD	8	5,441 Non-core	24	441	12.5%	Yellow	1
Turner County, SD	46125 SD	8	8,384 Small metro	41	489	9.8%	Yellow	3
Union County, SD	46127 SD	8	15,932 Small metro	315	1,977	7.0%	Yellow	2
Walworth County, SD	46129 SD	8	5,435 Non-core	110	2,024	10.9%	Red	1
Yankton County, SD	46135 SD	8	22,814 Micropolitan	289	1,267	0.7%	Green	2
Ziebach County, SD	46137 SD	8	2,756 Non-core	<20 tests	<20 tests	<20 tests	Green	1

[Data.CMS.gov](https://data.cms.gov)

Data from February 4-February 17

County Test Positivity Rate			
Green	Monthly	39	59%
Yellow	Weekly	25	38%
Red	2 X Weekly	2	3%
Counties		66	
Nursing Home Testing/Visitation			
Green	Monthly	53	51%
Yellow	Weekly	49	47%
Red	2 X Weekly	2	2%
Nursing Homes		104	



Compassionate Care – *for counties over 10% test positivity rate*

Source: CMS Frequently Asked Questions – October 6, 2020

While end-of-life situations have been used as examples of compassionate care situations, the term “compassionate care situations” **does not exclusively refer to end-of-life situations**. Examples of other types of compassionate care situations include, **but are not limited to**:

- A resident, who was living with their family before recently being admitted to a nursing home, is struggling with the change in environment and lack of physical family support.
- A resident who is grieving after a friend or family member recently passed away.
- A resident who needs cueing and encouragement with eating or drinking, previously provided by family and/or caregiver(s), is experiencing weight loss or dehydration.
- A resident, who used to talk and interact with others, is experiencing emotional distress, seldom speaking, or crying more frequently (when the resident had rarely cried in the past).

Allowing a visit in these situations would be consistent with the intent of, “compassionate care situations.” Also, in addition to family members, compassionate care visits can be conducted by any individual that can meet the resident’s needs, such as clergy or lay persons offering religious and spiritual support.

Furthermore, the above list is not an exhaustive list as there may be other compassionate care situations not included.



The Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention

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- **Screening** of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions or observations about signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms
- **Hand hygiene** (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred)
- **Face covering or mask** (covering mouth and nose)
- **Social distancing** at least six feet between persons
- **Instructional signage** throughout the facility and proper **visitor education** on COVID19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of face covering or mask, specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas, hand hygiene)
- **Cleaning and disinfecting** high frequency touched surfaces in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit
- Appropriate use of **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
- **Effective cohorting** of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated COVID-19 care)
- **Resident and staff testing** are accessible

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PPE and BinaxNOW are available to facilitate visitation in LTC

To facilitate visitation please contact:

- ✓ PPE – email a request form to COVIDResourceRequests@state.sd.us OR call **605.773.3048** and requesting entities must provide information regarding their current facility status.
- ✓ In looking forward to the end of the federal allocation of the BinaxNOW kits and to ensure use of these valuable resources, we will be pushing out another shipment of BinaxNOW kits to all LTC providers.
 - ✓ Please look at your **BinaxNOW expiration dates**.
 - ✓ Use kits with the earliest expiration date first.
 - ✓ Please send an email to Cindy Koopman-Viergets at Cindy.KoopmanViergets@state.sd.us if you do not want these kits no later than Monday, February 22nd.



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Re-admission/ New Admission Guidance - CDC

Create a Plan for Managing New Admissions and Readmissions Whose COVID-19 Status is Unknown.

• Depending on the prevalence of COVID-19 in the community, this might include placing the resident in a single-person room or in a separate observation area so the resident can be monitored for evidence of COVID-19. HCP should wear an N95 or higher-level respirator (or facemask if a respirator is not available), eye protection (i.e., goggles or a face shield that covers the front and sides of the face), gloves, and gown when caring for these residents. Residents can be transferred out of the observation area to the main facility if they remain afebrile and without symptoms for 14 days after their admission. Testing at the end of this period can be considered to increase certainty that the resident is not infected.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>

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Re-admission/ New Admission Guidance - CMS

CMS – qso-20-38-nh – COVID-19 Focused Survey

Does the facility have a plan (including appropriate placement and PPE use) to manage residents that are new/readmissions under observation, those exposed to COVID-19, and those suspected of COVID-19? Are these actions based on national (e.g., CDC), state, or local public health authority recommendations?

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh.pdf>

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Risk for Residents after Community/Medical Visits

Assess risk of visit, and place patient in most appropriate location upon return.

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Risk assessment Examples

[https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/riskassessment_communityvi
sit.pdf](https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/riskassessment_communityvi
sit.pdf)

http://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19_LTC_FacilityRiskAssessment.pdf

Georgia Risk Assessment – Page 3 - [https://assets.website-
files.com/5ead5c72cd1146a4d27183f3/5fbbc832ed56ccca38a9f21d_LTCF%20Holiday%20Guida
nce-Update%2011202020.pdf](https://assets.website-
files.com/5ead5c72cd1146a4d27183f3/5fbbc832ed56ccca38a9f21d_LTCF%20Holiday%20Guida
nce-Update%2011202020.pdf)

[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/INFCONT_exp_risk_assess_template_pati
ents_postacute.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/INFCONT_exp_risk_assess_template_pati
ents_postacute.pdf)



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