



## DDS VISITATION GUIDANCE

3/16/2021 FINAL

While taking a person-centered approach and adhering to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention, outdoor visitation is preferred if possible, even when an individual and visitor are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

### ***Definitions***

**Fully vaccinated:** Individual has received both doses of a two-round vaccine *and* it's been two weeks since the second dose, *or* they have received a single-dose vaccine and waited two weeks.

**Increased risk for severe COVID 19** – Individuals of any age with **certain underlying medical conditions**, such as cancer, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, COPD, down syndrome, obesity and pregnancy. This is not a complete list of conditions.

**Low risk for COVID 19** – Healthy individuals under the age of 65. Do not have any of the conditions associated with individuals at increased risk for severe COVID 19.

**Physically Distancing** - Limiting close contact with others. Practicing social distancing as recommended by CDC and CT DPH.

**Face Mask** – The expectation throughout this guidance is that all support employees and contractors will wear well-fitted masks at all times.

**GUIDANCE FAMILY HOME: Single Household Visits (the functional equivalent of a traditional family whose members are a non-transient interactive group of persons)**

**INDIVIDUAL VACCINATED**

- Can visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people, from a single household, who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease, indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- For example, an individual who is fully vaccinated can visit indoors with their unvaccinated healthy parents, without wearing a mask or physical distancing, provided the unvaccinated parents are not at increased risk for severe COVID-19.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people who are at increased risk for severe COVID-19 while wearing a well-fitted mask and social distancing. Visit should be outdoors or in well a ventilated area.

**INDIVIDUAL UNVACCINATED LOW RISK**

- Can visit fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people from a single household who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease, indoors while wearing masks and physically distancing.
- For example, individuals who are unvaccinated and low risk for severe COVID 19, can visit indoors with their unvaccinated healthy sister while wearing masks and physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people who are at increased risk for severe COVID-19 while wearing well-fitted mask and physically distancing. Visit should be outdoors or in well ventilated area.

**INDIVIDUAL UNVACCINATED HIGH RISK**

- Must wear a well-fitted mask and physically distance, regardless of the health status of others

## COMMUNITY INDOOR: SAME RULES APPLY REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS

All people engaging in social activities in **public settings** should continue to follow all state requirements wearing a well-fitted mask, maintaining physical distance, avoiding crowds, avoiding poorly ventilated spaces, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands frequently. Private community setting such as a backyard may follow the guidelines below.

### COMMUNITY OUTDOOR: (parks, backyards, including public and residential outdoor settings)

#### INDIVIDUAL VACCINATED

- Can visit with other fully vaccinated people outdoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people from a single household, who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease outdoors, without wearing masks or physical distancing
- Can visit outdoors with unvaccinated people who are at increased risk for severe COVID-19 while wearing a well-fitted mask and physically distancing.

#### INDIVIDUAL UNVACCINATED LOW RISK

- Can visit with fully vaccinated people outdoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people from a single household, who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease, outdoors while wearing well-fitted masks and physical distancing.
- Can visit outdoors with unvaccinated people who are at increased risk for severe COVID-19 while wearing a well-fitted mask and physically distancing.

#### INDIVIDUAL UNVACCINATED HIGH RISK

- Must wear a well-fitted mask and physically distance, regardless of the health status of others

**INDIVIDUAL'S HOME/CONGREGATE SETTING (where several people reside, meet or gather in proximity for either a limited or extended period)**

Since it is not possible to determine the vaccination status of all staff and guests, there is a higher risk of COVID 19 transmission. Therefore, all people entering the home or setting should take the following precautions • Screening of all who enter the home or setting for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the prior 14 days (regardless of the visitor's vaccination status) • Hand hygiene (hand washing with soap and water or use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer) • Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose) at all times in common areas • Social distancing with the appropriate distance as recommended by the CDC and CT DPH guidance • Cleaning and disinfecting high-frequency touched surfaces after a visitation • Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This guidance is contingent upon the CT state direction based upon positivity rate.

Visits would not occur indoors in the following circumstances:

- Individual in quarantine, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, until they have met the criteria for release from quarantine.
- Individual with confirmed COVID-19 infection, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated until they have met the criteria to discontinue transmission-based precautions
- When a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified, a residential home should immediately begin outbreak testing and suspend all visitation (except that required under federal disability rights law), until at least one round of testing within the home is completed.
- If potential visitors have been exposed to someone who is positive for COVID – 19 within 14-days prior to the scheduled visit.

## INDIVIDUAL VACCINATED

- Can visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors, in designated area, without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people from a single household, who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease, indoors in designated area without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- For example, individual who is fully vaccinated can visit indoors, in a designated area with their unvaccinated healthy parents without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people who are at increased risk for severe COVID-19 while wearing a well-fitted mask and social distancing. Visit should be outdoors or in well a ventilated area.

## INDIVIDUAL UNVACCINATED LOW RISK

- Can visit with fully vaccinated people indoors, in a designated area, without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people from a single household, who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease, indoors in a designated area while wearing masks and physical distancing.
- For example, an individual who is unvaccinated and low risk for severe COVID 19 can visit indoors in a designated area with their unvaccinated healthy sister while wearing masks and physical distancing.
- Can visit with unvaccinated people who are at increased risk for severe COVID-19 while wearing well-fitted mask and physically distancing. Visit should be outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.

## INDIVIDUAL UNVACCINATED HIGH RISK

- Must wear a well-fitted mask and physically distance, regardless of the health status of others

**Note:** please remind all visitors of the importance of immediately notifying a supervisor/manager at the residence/setting if they test positive for COVID-19 or a variant within 14-days following a visit.

Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/images/323010-G Recommendations for fully vaccinated WG 1.jpg>

Handwashing <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>