



Visitor Guidelines

Our top priority is the safety and well-being of our patients, staff and the communities we are privileged to serve. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Essentia Health has made the difficult decision to restrict visitors at our hospitals and clinics. This is being done to reduce the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission to our patients and staff.

The decision to allow visitation is reassessed every day and may change.

Visitors are allowed, in the following circumstances:

Essentia Health Hospitals

- **Hospital units:**
 - Visiting Hours are from 9am to 6pm
 - One visitor is allowed per patient, per day.
 - Visitors will not be allowed if the patient has tested positive for COVID-19, except in end of life situations.
 - Patients for whom a support person has been determined to be essential to the care and safety of the patient, including patients with intellectual or developmental disabilities and patients with cognitive impairments including dementia, may have one designated support person remain with them during their stay, with the exception of presence in an operating room or other procedural area where visitors are not permitted.
- **Pediatric units:** Two adult visitors are permitted per patient.
- **Neonatal intensive care units:** Two parents are permitted to visit at a time
- **Birthing Centers:** One adult visitor (birth partner) is permitted. A certified doula will be allowed during labor, upon request.
- **Chaplaincy/Clergy** can visit patients. Some Essentia facilities do have chaplains on staff and are available for ritual, support, prayer and assisting with virtual and phone connections with family and patient's clergy/religious leader(s).

Essentia Health Clinics

- **Adult patients:** one adult visitor is permitted.
- **Pediatric Patients:** two parents/guardians are permitted with children under age 18.

Entrance into the building:

All visitors need to enter the building through the designated entrance. Screeners will check your temperature and ask you several health-related questions. Please do not visit a patient if you have any symptoms of illness or have been exposed to someone who is ill.

Please bring a mask with you when you visit our facility. You must wear your mask from the time you enter the building until you leave the building, including while you are in the patient's room.



While in the Building:

You will be asked to go directly to the patient's room and to stay in the room the entire time that you visit. No eating or sleeping will be allowed in the patient's room.

Wash your Hands:

Please wash your hands often. This is one of the best ways to avoid getting sick. It also helps to stop the spread of illnesses. Soap and water are best for killing viruses on your hands.

Stand 6 feet away:

It is key to social distance yourself. Limit your contact with others (including your loved one), including the healthcare team while they are caring for your loved one by standing 6 feet away.



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