

Visitor Guidelines

Effective February 15, 2022

Screening criteria

- All visitors to UVA Community Health facilities will be screened for and must be free of COVID-19 symptoms.
- Visitors are required to mask while inside UVA Community Health facilities.
- Visitors not meeting COVID-19 screening requirements are NOT allowed to enter UVA Community Health facilities unless *they meet one of the exceptions*.
- Patients who are known COVID-19 positive patients or persons under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 may not have visitors, *unless they meet one of the exceptions*.
 - Exceptions:
 - **Minors or adults requiring guardianship** may have two (2) designated adult visitors. One of those designated visitors may remain with the patient 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
 - **Laboring mothers** can designate one (1) adult individual to support them for the entirety of their stay
 - In accordance with HB2162 legislation, a patient who is a person with a disability has the right to identify a “designated support person” to accompany the patient during an admission. If care lasts longer than 24 hours, the patient may designate more than one designated support person.
 - Nursing supervisors may grant visitation for **end-of-life** or other **special circumstances**.
 - *Special circumstances could include care needed to the level of guardianship (but not legally designated guardianship); designated individual needed for plan-of-care decisions, discharge education or specific teaching in order for the patient to be safely discharged home; or patients needing family/caregiver support to assist in the care of a confused or agitated patient.*

- *Nursing supervisors will keep track of any patients who have visitation granted by a special circumstance.*

General visitor guidelines

- Visitors should remain with the patient, or in the designated area mentioned below while in the organization.
- All public spaces- including the hospital lobbies, cafeterias, and waiting areas- are closed to members of the public at this time.

Department-specific guidelines

Emergency Department

- Emergency Department (ED) patients may have one (1) designated visitor accompany them during their time in the ED. Pediatric patients are permitted two (2) parents/guardians.
- Designated visitors must be 18 or older and must remain with the patient at bedside while the patient remains in the ED. If the visitor leaves the patient's treatment room, they may not be allowed re-entry. Additional visitors are required to wait outside of the building; they will not be allowed to remain in the ED waiting room or any other area inside of the hospital.

Inpatient (obstetrics only)

- Laboring mothers can designate one (1) adult individual to support them during their stay.
- Visiting hour restrictions do not apply to these visitors.

Inpatient (non-obstetrics)

- Admitted adult patients may have one (1) visitor to accompany them during visiting hours.
- Pediatric patients may have two (2) designated adult visitors. One of those designated visitors may remain with the patient 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **Visiting hours for UVA Community Health inpatient patient care areas are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day.**

- Designated visitors must be 18 or older and must remain with the patient at bedside.

Behavioral Health Inpatient

- Visitation guidelines for Prince William Medical Center Behavioral Health inpatients will be provided upon admission.

Surgical and procedural areas

- Patients in surgical/procedural areas may have one (1) designated visitor accompany them on the day of the procedure.
- Designated visitors must be 18 or older and must remain with the patient at bedside until the patient is taken into surgery.
- When the patient is taken into surgery, the visitor should remain in the patient's room (if inpatient) or return to their vehicle (if outpatient) until notified that the patient is in recovery.

Outpatient areas (including imaging, clinics, Medical Group offices, and other ambulatory care areas)

- Patients in outpatient areas may have one (1) visitor accompany them as needed for support.