



## **Family Visitation Guidelines for Residential Programs** *(during the COVID-19 pandemic) updated 10/17/2022*

Collage has implemented guidelines in order to adhere to all CDC, CMS and DOH (Department of Health) guidelines regarding visitation, as restrictions are lifted for those living in congregate care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The CDC, CMS, and DOH list the following considerations for visitation as restrictions are being relaxed:

- Screening visitors before they enter a program, including
  - Checking visitors' temperatures
  - Questioning them about symptoms and potential exposure
  - Observing them for any symptoms or signs of infection

### **INDOOR & OUTDOOR VISIT GUIDELINES**

- Visitors will be asked to show proof of full vaccination (vaccination card) or Negative COVID test result (24 hrs. before visit for rapid; 48 hrs. before visit for PCR). Providing a negative rapid test or PCR test result is the responsibility of the family member/visitor.
- Showing proof of vaccination or a negative test result is not required in order for the visit to occur, but is requested in an effort to maintain a healthy and safe residential environment for all clients.

### **SCHEDULING VISITS**

- Scheduling the visit with the RCM/CM is requested to ensure that the client will be available during the visit time and that the visit does not interfere with therapies, medical appointments or community activities.
- Visiting hours have returned to normal times that include weekdays and weekends (please ask for the visiting hours for your loved one's program).
- The number of visitors is determined by the location of the visit (i.e. client bedroom avg. 1-4 ppl; visitation area avg. 2-6 ppl).
- Length of visit is no longer restricted to 1- 2 hours; however, the program can request that extended visits (over 5 hrs.) be limited so as not to interfere with provision of the client's treatment plan or operations of the program in regards to other clients.



## **STRUCTURE OF VISITS**

- Visits will be held outside in designated areas whenever the weather allows. If the weather does not permit, the visit will be held in the client room, or a designated space within the residence. Indoor visits can also be arranged at any time at the request of the client, family, or visitor. You will be escorted by staff to the visitation area, and you should avoid contact/interaction with other clients.
- During visits masks are optional once in the designated visitation location (i.e. client bedroom or visitation area). Also, close contact is permitted during visits (hugs, kiss, and closer than 6 ft.)
- The program is able to provide you with masks if you do not have one.
- Gifts for the client are allowed to be brought into the visiting area and given to the client directly.

## **BEFORE THE VISIT**

- Staff will take visitors' temperature on arrival, and record this on the Client Visitor Sign-in Log.
- You will be asked to complete all other questions/sections on the Client Visitor Sign-in Log.
- If there are any positive responses regarding symptoms or exposures, or body temperature is over 100.4, the staff will request to reschedule the visit.
- Visitors will be asked to utilize hand sanitizer before meeting with the client.

## **AFTER THE VISIT**

- Visitors will be offered hand sanitizer after meeting with the client.
- Designated staff will clean the visitation area with approved disinfecting cleaners. The cleaning will include seats, commonly touched surfaces, etc.