

# Requirements for Visitors to Healthcare Settings

Planning a visit to a hospital or nursing home? Here's what you need to know. Read the [full requirements](#) and see the [Q&A](#).

## #1 You'll need to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test

Visitors to hospitals and nursing homes must show [proof of vaccination](#) for COVID-19 or a negative [COVID test](#) (taken within the last 72 hours). This applies to anyone more than two years old (including those who cannot be vaccinated due to age or other reasons).

Only COVID-19 tests from approved testing sites are acceptable. Any PCR, antigen, or NAAT test approved for emergency use by the FDA is acceptable. [Find a testing site.](#)



However, exceptions include the following (but for no longer than 72 hours):

- If you're visiting someone in critical condition and death may be imminent.
- If you're a parent/guardian of a child seeking emergency care.
- If you're supporting a labor and delivery patient or visiting for baby bonding.
- If you're a support person for someone with a disability who is seeking emergency care.
- If you're supporting someone during a hospital visit for outpatient services.
- If you're on duty as a fire, police, or ambulance worker.

## #2 You'll need to wear a face covering at all times

Visitors must wear a well-fitting face mask over their mouth and nose (a surgical mask or double masking is always recommended).



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