



New Hampshire Veterans Home

139 Winter Street
Tilton, NH 03276-5415



Margaret D. LaBrecque
Commandant

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November 15, 2021

Dear Residents and Families,

We are happy to announce residents have received their influenza vaccine and the majority of the eligible residents have received their COVID-19 booster. We continue to keep updated of COVID-19 activity as community transmission remains high with new cases daily throughout Belknap County and all of NH. Despite this, we feel with certain parameters in place, we can safely allow more liberal visits with residents. If not updated below, the current guidelines remain as previously communicated.

Residents who are fully vaccinated are able to go on social excursions with their families and friends which can include overnight outings! These visits still need to be scheduled at least 3 days in advance. For **social excursions**, call the main NH Veterans Home (NHVH) number at (603) 527-4400, Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and ask for the Resource Nurse.

Visitors who are fully vaccinated visiting in the home with a fully vaccinated resident, will no longer need to be escorted to their visiting location. The Limited Visitation Declaration form still needs to be completed and visits will be scheduled, at least a day in advance, through the Recreational Therapy department (email visits@nhvh.nh.gov or phone 603-527-4816). However, it is important that all visitors adhere to the following guidelines to keep the residents safe and healthy:

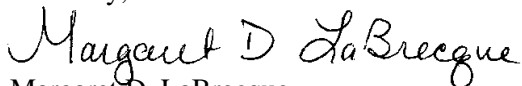
- Visitor(s) will be limited to 3 at a time.
- Visitor(s) will enter through the main entrance, self-screen per the questions listed and take their temperature at the machine.
- Visitor(s) will sign in at the front window after reading the notice posted (enclosed) outlining the expectations and receive a visitor pass.
- Visitor(s) will wear a medical-grade mask when in common areas within the home. If visitors do not wear the mask despite being requested to do so, this may lead to the visit ending and being asked to leave the home.
- Visitor(s) will refrain from conversations with other residents on their way to see their veteran but rather will go directly to the room to visit. If the visitor does not know how to get to their veteran's room, Security can escort them to the location.
- When a resident has a roommate, when scheduling the visit, recreation staff will inquire if the visitor would like to be assigned a room for a private visit. At the end of the visit, visitor(s) will need to wipe down items in the room (chairs, handles, railings, doorknobs etc.) that are touched during the visit.

As is evident with the weather becoming colder and the merchandise in stores, the holiday season is upon us. Unfortunately, meals will not be provided for visitors on Thanksgiving or Christmas this year. If you would like to enjoy a holiday meal together, we encourage you to take your veteran on a social excursion for the holiday(s). If that is not possible and you would like to visit at the NHVH, there will continue to be a 3 visitor limit per resident. At the time of scheduling the visit, if fully vaccinated, we will ask you the length of your visit so that we can plan accordingly. Please call or email the Recreational Therapy Department to schedule any visits to occur at NHVH.

With the increased flexibility for visitors entering NHVH, it is even more important to abide by the guidelines. This is vital in helping us with contact tracing to limit further exposure in the event someone contracts COVID-19.

We wish you, your veteran and your family a happy and healthy holiday season!

Sincerely,


Margaret D. LaBrecque
Commandant

Enclosure



New Hampshire Veterans Home Form

1290-B Guideline for Visitors

Policy: 1290 Visitation

Associated OP:

Type of Form: Resource

Effective Date: November 2021

This form is to ensure the safety of the residents and visitors from transmission of infectious disease. In facility visits are specific to vaccinated visitors as unvaccinated visitors will continue to have observed visits.

Form

The following is intended to support staff and managers in the understanding of a policy and/or procedure or will assist to complete a task associated with the policy and/or procedure.

By signing in for a visit **in the facility**:

- ✓ I attest that I have completed the Form 1290 Limited Visitation Declaration for myself and all of the visitors with me today.
- ✓ I attest that I have received the COVID-19 vaccine.
- ✓ I do not and have not had any infectious disease symptoms in the last 48 hours before the visit including but not limited to: fever or chills; cough; shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; and/or diarrhea.
- ✓ I agree to wear a medical-grade mask whenever in the common areas of the home where other residents may be present. I will only remove my mask once I am behind doors with the resident I am visiting.
- ✓ I agree, to the best of my ability, I will not talk to other residents other than the resident I am here to visit.
- ✓ I will go directly to the location of the resident I am visiting and if I don't know how to get there Security will escort me to the location.
- ✓ If I need assistance during the visit, I will remain in the resident's room and use the call bell.

By signing out a resident for an **offsite excursion**:

- ✓ I acknowledge the risk of transmitting or contracting COVID-19 or another infectious disease.
- ✓ I do not have any infectious disease symptoms including but not limited to: fever or chills; cough; shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; and/or diarrhea.
- ✓ I accept responsibility for source control by wearing a mask and having the resident wear a mask when a visitor is not fully vaccinated and/or in a public (inside or outside) or crowded area or when vaccination status is not known.
- ✓ I will encourage good hand hygiene for the resident with the use of their hand sanitizer as well as encourage all persons in contact with the resident to wash and/or sanitize their hands regularly.