



New Hampshire Veterans Home
 139 Winter Street
 Tilton, NH 03276



Kimberly M. MacKay
 Commandant

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August 1, 2022

Dear Residents and Families,

We are delighted to share new visiting procedures with you! As of August 1st, scheduling visits with your veteran is no longer needed, and up to three visitors may drop in to visit a resident in their room at any time between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. any day of the week. Visits occurring outside on the campus of the New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH), no longer limit the number of visitors.

To visit your veteran, please enter at the main (Winter Street) entrance where you will self-screen by answering the posted questions and take your temperature. You will then proceed to the front desk to sign in and receive a visitor's pass. We ask that you read the posted notice outlining the visiting guidelines. This posted notice, Form 1290-B 'Guidelines for Visitors', is also enclosed for your reference. There are new additional questions for screening as well as information for our Infection Prevention and Control Program, should the need arise.

Visitors will be provided a medical-grade mask to wear while walking through common areas of the Home on your way to your veteran's room. Once in their room, you are encouraged to continue to wear the mask for your veteran's health and safety.

While we are still in a pandemic, we continue to take precautions to facilitate a safe environment for our veterans, employees, volunteers, and visitors. There may be instances where you may need to visit your veteran other than in their room to ensure social distancing and to maintain resident safety. Our resource nurse can assist with finding an alternate location for your visit, if needed.

Please note that during the pandemic, we continue to pivot as contributing factors frequently change. Although we hope not to change back to scheduled visits, we will send additional communications should the NHVH Infection Prevention and Control department once again determine those visits to be the most prudent for the health and safety of our veterans.

Social excursions will now be scheduled by our Recreation Department by calling 603-527-4816 or emailing visits@nhvh.nh.gov. Social excursions continue to be scheduled three (or more) days in advance. Additionally, video visits continue to be scheduled by our Recreation Therapists:

Tarr - Duain Cook: 603-527-4466 or Duain.J.Cook@nhvh.nh.gov

Megan Prescott: 603-527-4834 or Megan.M.Prescott@nhvh.nh.gov

Life Enhancement Dementia Unit (LEDU) -

Jennifer Mitchell: 603-527-4815 or Jennifer.S.Mitchell@nhvh.nh.gov

Megan Rowe: 603-527-4835 or Megan.E.Rowe@nhvh.nh.gov

We look forward to seeing you with your veterans for your visits!

Sincerely,

Kimberly M. MacKay
 Commandant

Enclosure



New Hampshire Veterans Home Form 1290-B Guideline for Visitors

Policy: 1290 Visitation

Associated OP: N/A

Type of Form: Resource

Effective Date: July 2022

This form is to ensure the safety of the residents and visitors from transmission of infectious disease.

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 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, **at all times**, in the common areas of the home where other residents may be present. I understand that I am encouraged to wear the mask throughout the visit with the resident once I am behind doors.
- ✓ 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 in a public (inside or outside) crowded area where the potential for transmission is greater.
- ✓ 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.