

Enhanced Visitation Policy

Essential Visitation Only

(Effective January 6, 2021)

Visitation hours are from 10:00 am - 7:00 pm daily

Essential visitors include those who are visiting/accompanying the following patients:

- Minor patients under the age of 18
- Patients in labor and delivery and/or family birth centers
- Patients at end of life and/or in hospice/palliative care
- Patients with scheduled surgery
- Patients who need a healthcare decision maker
- Patients who are developmentally disabled that require full-time care

Essential visitors must continue to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Essential visitors are named at admission and remain consistent for the duration of the admission.
- Minor patients under the age of 18 may have two (2) essential visitors and one (1) essential visitor overnight.
- Patients in labor and delivery and/or family birth centers may have two (2) essential visitors including the birth coach and one (1) essential visitor overnight.
- Patients in hospice or palliative care may have two (2) essential visitors daily, one (1) at a time at the bedside, and one (1) essential visitor overnight.
- Patients with scheduled surgery may have one (1) essential visitor.
- Visitors are asked to stay no longer than one (1) hour per visit.
- Visitors under the age of 13 are not permitted, including for the birth of a sibling.
- Visitors must remain in the patient room at all times and avoid waiting areas, hallways, and common areas while in the hospital. At this time, all cafeteria, gift shops, and cafés are closed to the public.
- Exceptions to the visitation policy will be determined by the Attending Physician and Charge Nurse on duty.

The enhanced visitation policy applies to all Houston Healthcare locations, including:

**Houston Medical Center | Perry Hospital | Houston Health Pavilion
Emergency Rooms, Med-Stops, and Diagnostics Centers**

Visitors will not be permitted for confirmed COVID-19 patients and Patients Under Investigation being screened and awaiting results.

It is mandatory that a hospital-approved mask be properly worn at all times while at any Houston Healthcare facility. Non-charcoal filtered vented mask are prohibited. Any patient, visitor or employee who arrives without an approved mask will be provided a surgical mask to replace or cover over any mask that does not meet the appropriate guidelines.

All facilities may be accessed through the main lobby and/or emergency centers. Visitors with cough, fever, shortness of breath or other flu-like symptoms will not be allowed entry. Greeters at public entrances will continue to ask basic screening questions and temperature monitoring, guiding those seeking treatment to the appropriate location while assisting essential visitors as needed. Patients who require help with mobility will be assisted by a staff member. Patients who require help with communication will be provided Stratus video translation services.

Houston Healthcare recognizes that interacting with loved ones can be helpful to the healing process and strongly encourage everyone to utilize other forms of support for their loved ones, including phone calls and video chats on cell phones or other mobile devices. Patients have access to Wi-Fi to assist with mobile communication.



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