

# Arkansas State Hospital

## COVID-19 Visitation Protocols

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, visitation protocols at the Arkansas State Hospital (ASH) are subject to change regularly. Please stay updated on current visitation requirements before your visit to the ASH campus.**

The requirements in this protocol are intended to reduce the risk of exposure and contain the transmission of COVID-19 in the hospital. It will be adapted and modified depending on the severity of the illness, and as needed to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local government mandates.

### **MASKS AND SCREENING**

- Visitors must enter the building at the main entrance of the hospital.
- Visitors must pass a health screening and wear a cloth mask or surgical/procedural grade mask.
- If he/she does not have a mask, surgical/procedural masks will be available at the screening station in the front lobby of the ASH main entrance.
- Masks must completely cover the mouth and nose and be secured with ties or ear loops.
- Visitors are required to wear a mask and name badge at all times. Masks may be removed for eating and drinking.
- Bandanas, masks with vents, and gaiters are not approved face coverings and may not be worn while at ASH.

### **AGE LIMITATIONS**

Visitors must be twelve (12) years of age or over, unless there is a physician's order specifying otherwise. Visitors under age eighteen (18) must be accompanied by an adult.

### **MAXIMUM NUMBER OF VISITORS PER PATIENT**

No more than two (2) visitors may visit with a patient during visitation time, unless there is a physician's order specifying otherwise.

### **VISITATION HOURS**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Locations</b>
Tuesday and Thursday	5:00-7:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adult Units (Unit B, Unit C, Unit A) <b>NASH Gym</b></li><li>• Forensic Units (5 Upper, 5 Lower, 6 Upper, 6 Lower) <b>NASH Gym</b></li><li>• Adolescent Units (Unit D, Unit E) <b>Designated Area on Units</b></li></ul>

### **ASH VISITATION REQUIREMENTS**

Effective: December 15, 2021

Updated:

**PLEASE ARRIVE 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO VISIT FOR ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS, CHECK-IN, AND SCREENING.**

1. ALL visits must be scheduled through the patient's social worker.
2. Fully vaccinated visitors must provide proof of vaccination at least twenty (24) hours prior to visit. "Fully vaccinated" means in accordance with current CDC guidelines at the time of visit. If the visitor has been vaccinated in the state of Arkansas, then ASH department of Infection Prevention (IP) will verify the visitor's vaccination status.
3. Due to staffing and safety considerations, special visitation precautions are necessary for visitors that are not fully vaccinated/ unvaccinated and may be arranged by requesting approval from the hospital Medical Director.
4. Visitors that are not fully vaccinated/ unvaccinated will be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test within forty-eight (48) hours prior to visit.
5. Due to staffing and safety considerations, visitations outside of regularly scheduled visitation hours must be arranged by requesting approval from the Medical Director
6. Any potential visitor who arrives outside of scheduled visiting hours will not be allowed to visit.
7. Former patients, discharged from ASH within a year of the visit, are prohibited from visitation. Any exception to this restriction requires a physician's approval in advance.
8. Visitors will not be allowed to visit with anyone other than the ASH patient authorizing the visit.
9. The patient may restrict, withdraw, or deny consent to one or more visitors at any time.
10. Visitors may take ASH approved items in the patient visitation area. See ASH Public Safety for an approved list.
11. All campus visitors are subject to metal detector screening and search if necessary.
12. The introduction of contraband into ASH is prohibited. **Furnishing, possessing, or using prohibited articles is a class "C" felony punishable by Arkansas law.** Prohibited articles include, but is not limited to, weapons, intoxicating beverages, controlled substances, a cellular telephone or other communication devices, or any other items that would facilitate an unauthorized departure.
13. Visitors may not smoke in ASH buildings or anywhere on ASH grounds. **Smoking tobacco on the hospital campus is a Class "C" misdemeanor and punishable by fine up to \$500.**
14. Visitors who create a disturbance, do not follow visitation requirements, or whose behavior or health presents a direct risk or threat to patients or staff—will be asked to leave.