

August 31, 2021

Dear Argent Residents, Families, and Staff,

We have gratefully enjoyed a spring and summer of mostly regular activity for Residents and visitors. While all of us would love to continue this path, because of the rapid spread of the Delta variant, it is with a heavy heart we find it necessary to communicate COVID procedures again. We depend mainly on the CDC and the HHSC's guidance and protocols, which can vary from county to county based on each staff and Resident COVID count. The evidence is that regardless of unvaccinated or vaccinated persons, the variant can be contracted and spread. We all have questions about the new variant but understand the answers are not easily found given its newness to healthcare experts.

We recognize that we will all need to navigate through the next few months together just as we did during the first phase of this pandemic. All employees' temperatures continue to be taken before an employee is allowed to begin work. As a precautionary measure, Residents' temperatures continue to be monitored twice a day as an added layer of protection.

**COVID-19 EMERGENCY RULE:**

To protect assisted living facility Residents and the public health, safety, and welfare of the state during the COVID-19 pandemic, HHSC is adopting an emergency rule to require limited indoor and outdoor visitation in an assisted living facility. The purpose of the new rule is to describe the requirements related to such visits.

Only Essential visits will be allowed at this time. All we ask for is extra precautions be taken as we navigate these new challenges.

Below are some changes in our guidelines regarding visitation to take effect immediately –

- You must continue to wear a mask during your visit regardless of vaccination status.
- All screening will continue, except emergency services personnel entering the facility in an emergency.
- Please re-schedule your visit if you have any symptoms, including allergy symptoms.
- As weather permits, we encourage outdoor visitation with your loved one.
- Limit two persons per visit for Essential Caregiver visits. Visitation must be facilitated to allow time for cleaning and sanitization of the visitation area between visits and to ensure infection prevention and control measures are followed. To meet this requirement, all appointments must continue to be scheduled through Visibook for tracking purposes.

To reduce exposure, if a school-age child must visit, we ask it to be an outdoor visit only.

**Here are some required steps to complete before becoming an Essential Caregiver visitor.**

1) **Complete the online courses** that will train you on the required precautions for an essential caregiver.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/global-covid-19/handwashing.html>

<https://youtu.be/H4jQUBAlBrI>

<https://youtu.be/PQxOc13DxvQ>

2) **Scheduling visits:** All Visits must be scheduled in advance through

<https://visibook.com/rfnwnhkqkqdxpjnxb>

Our lives have changed, but our mission has not. Putting the safety and well-being of our Residents and staff in front of all else has been our clear mission from the beginning and will continue. Please know that we are here to answer any questions or resolve any concerns you have as we continue to grow and learn together. We have such a great group of Residents, families, and team members.

I look forward to us moving in a positive direction and growing to be the best community we can be.

May God Bless you and your families always.

Sincerely,



Shasta Adams  
Vice President of Operations