



## SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

TO: Rapid City Community Work Center Incarcerated Population and Visitors

FROM: Brent Fluke, Warden  
Mike Durfee State Prison

DATE: March 1, 2021

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Visiting

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RCCWC has begun a gradual return to more normal operations and, effective March 12, 2021, will resume visits using a phased approach. Visitation will be limited at this time to allow for social distancing, and several new restrictions will be in place to protect the health and safety of offenders and staff during the public health crisis. As we go forward with this phased approach, it will be monitored and evaluated to determine if less restrictive means are feasible. Please see below for specific RCCWC visiting procedures. A copy of standard visitation rules and current restrictions can be found on our website, <https://doc.sd.gov/>

***An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death ... By participating in visits at RCCWC, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure of COVID-19.***

### **Scheduling**

- If you are not already an approved visitor, please contact the offender you wish to visit directly
  - The offender must request you be added to their facility visit list. After that has been completed and you are approved on the facility list the

visitor will be required to sign up for a GTL visit account. This can be done at <https://sddoc.gtlvisitme.com/app>

- If you have questions, call (855)-208-7349 for assistance
- Contact the offender to confirm you are on the offender's approved visit list prior to scheduling a visit
- Visits can be scheduled as much as one weeks in advance, but must be scheduled no later than 72 hours prior to desired visit session
- Visit sessions will be restricted in length with a break between sessions to sanitize all surfaces and to process new visitors
- Number of offenders allowed for each session will be limited based on the size of the facility's visit room
- Offenders will be allowed one visiting session per week as space allows
- Maximum of 2 visitors per offender
- No minors under the age of 12
- Visitors will not be allowed to check in for their visit until 10 minutes prior to scheduled visit time
- Visits will be for General Population only

### **Safety Procedures and Restrictions**

- All visitors must pass COVID-19 screening with a temperature check prior to entering the check-in area
- Anyone who does not pass the screening will not be allowed to enter
- Any visitor exhibiting signs of illness may be turned away
- Any visitor or offender with a serious underlying medical condition should refrain from visiting
- Offenders must use hand sanitizer upon entrance to and exit from the visiting area
- Visitors must use hand sanitizer upon entrance to the visiting area.
- All visitors, staff, and offenders will be required to wear a face cover or mask covering only their nose and mouth while in the visiting area. No bandanas or coverings that conceal the back of the head or neck area will be allowed
- Visitors must wear their own face covers when entering the building
- Upon entry to the facility, visitors will be provided a new face mask which must be worn in the visiting area
- Face covers may be inspected/searched for contraband and must be lowered when entering/exiting for identification purposes
- No contact between visitor and offender; no entrance/exit embrace or kiss; no contact at the table
- Offenders and visitors must maintain social distancing at all times
- Tables and chairs will be placed in the visiting area to allow offenders and visitors to converse and still maintain social distancing
- Tables and chairs must not be moved
- No vending machines, water fountains or sink areas may be used

- No games may be checked out
- No offender on quarantine or isolation status will be allowed to visit
- No special visits will be allowed at this time
- There will be zero tolerance for COVID-19 rule visit infractions
- Violation will result in termination of visit and offender will have visit privileges suspended for 30 days

### **RCCWC Visitation Schedules**

Friday 7:15pm-8:45pm

Saturday 1:00pm-2:30pm & 3:00pm-4:30pm

Sunday 1:00pm-2:30pm & 3:00pm-4:30pm

The most important component of reopening visiting and keeping it open is you. If visitors help keep the virus out, visiting can continue. Make smart health decisions. Follow social distancing guidelines and other recommendations. Wash your hands. Avoid crowds. Stay home if you are sick.

The department and offenders' families and friends are partners in protecting the health and safety of incarcerated offenders and prison staff. We must all work together to keep everyone safe during this public health crisis.