



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
South Dakota Women's Prison

3200 East Highway 34
Suite 1
Pierre, SD 57501-4078

TO: South Dakota Women's Prison Population and Visitors

FROM: Darren Berg, Warden
South Dakota Women's Prison

DATE: March 1, 2021

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Visiting

SDWP 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. Depending on the active COVID-19 cases at the facility, visitation may be suspended at any time. Please see below for specific SDWP 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 SDWP, 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 first request the visitor to be added to their visit list and obtain approval. Once the visitor is approved, the visitor will be required to sign up for a GTL visit account. Create an account at <https://sddoc.gtlvisitme.com/app>.

- Contact the offender to confirm you are on the offender's approved visit list prior to scheduling a visit
 - If you have questions, call (855)-208-7349 for assistance
- Visits can be scheduled up to two weeks in advance, but must be scheduled no later than 72 hours prior to the 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
- 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 Offenders only

Safety Procedures and Restrictions

- All visitors must pass COVID-19 screening which includes 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 entering and exiting from the visiting area
- Visitors must use hand sanitizer upon entering the visiting area
- All visitors, staff, and offenders will be required to wear a face cover that will be provided in the visit area. Disposable masks will be provided in each visit area. If visitors come in with their own face masks, they must be kept outside the visit area.
- Visitors must wear their own face covers when entering the building
- Upon entry to the visiting area, visitors must wear the provided masks that will be available in the area. No personal face masks are allowed in the visit room
- No contact between visitor and offender; no entrance/exit embrace or kiss; no contact at the table
- Offenders and visitors must always maintain social distancing
- Tables and chairs will be placed in the visiting area to allow offenders and visitors to converse and still maintain social distancing
- Tables, partitions / dividers, and chairs must not be moved
- No vending machines or water fountains may be used
- No games, cards, coloring books, books, or toys may be used / 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 of safety procedures and restrictions will result in immediate termination of visit, denial of future visits, and offender will have visit privileges suspended for 30 days
- Other visitation rules still apply

SDWP Visitation Schedule

- Main and E unit
 - Friday and Monday
 - 6:15 PM-7:30 PM – Main
 - 7:45 PM-9:00 PM – E unit
 - Weekend and Holiday
 - 12:15 PM-1:45 PM - Main
 - 2:00 PM-3:30 PM – E unit
- PCWC
 - Friday and Monday
 - 6:15 PM-7:30 PM – Top tier
 - 7:45 PM-9:00 PM – Bottom tier
 - Weekend and Holiday
 - 12:15 PM-1:45 PM - Top tier
 - 2:00 PM-3:30 PM – Bottom tier

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.