

Santa Lucia ALF

Visitation Policy and Procedures
Effective: 01/01/2025

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all residents at Santa Lucia ALF are afforded visitation rights that promote their physical, mental, and emotional well-being while maintaining infection control measures for the safety of all residents, staff, and visitors.

Policy

Santa Lucia ALF is committed to allowing residents to receive visitors of their choice in compliance with Florida Statutes 408.823 and 429.28(1)(d). This facility shall not restrict visitation except in very limited circumstances to protect residents' health and safety.

Visitors shall not be compelled to provide proof of vaccination or immunization status. Consensual physical contact between residents and their visitors is allowed.

Visitation Hours

- Visitation is permitted daily between 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM, at a minimum.
- Residents may visit with any person of their choice.

Essential Caregiver Visits

Entry shall not be denied to Essential Caregivers

Infection Control and Visitor Education

- Visitors will receive education on infection prevention practices before entering the facility.
- Visitors must follow infection control guidelines, including:
 - Use of personal protective equipment (PPE) as appropriate (gloves, masks, gowns if needed).
 - Hand hygiene (hand washing and/or sanitizer use) before and after visits.
 - Avoid visiting if exhibiting any symptoms of contagious illness.
 - The facility will provide necessary PPE if required.

Visitor Screening and Infection Control Protocols

- Visitors may be screened for symptoms of infectious disease upon arrival.
- Visitors must comply with posted facility protocols regarding infection control during their visit.
- Visitors refusing to comply with infection control protocols may be denied entry.

Physical Contact

- Residents have the right to engage in consensual physical contact with visitors, such as hugging, hand-holding, or other appropriate interactions.

Vaccination Status

- Visitors shall not be required to show proof of vaccination or immunization status to enter or visit.

Facility Visitation Areas

- Residents and visitors may visit in the resident's room, outside courtyards, or designated visitation areas that ensure privacy, comfort, and safety.

Enforcement and Oversight

- The Administrator of Santa Lucia ALF is designated as the responsible person to ensure staff adherence to this Visitation Policy and Procedures.
- All staff will be trained on the requirements of this policy and are responsible for supporting residents' rights to visitation.



AMENDMENT TO THE POLICIES & PROCEDURES ALL COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

NO PATIENT LEFT ALONE ACT Signed by Governor Ron De Santis on April 6, 2022, guarantees to Florida families the fundamental right to visit their loved ones who are receiving care in hospitals, hospice and long-term care facilities.

POLICY:

It is the policy of SANTA LUCIA ALF that residents' families can visit their loved ones without restrictions and that the residents can be hugged by their families and see their relatives and friends as long as they want, ensuring their physical, mental and emotional well-being.

PROCEDURE:

1. According to the 408.823 F.S. facilities must allow in-person visitations in all of the following circumstances, unless the resident objects:
 1. End of life situations.
 2. A resident who was living with family before being admitted to the provider's care and is struggling with the changes in the environment and lack of in person family support.
 3. A resident who is making one or more major medical decisions.
 4. A resident who is experiencing emotional distress or grieving with the loss of a friend or family member.
 5. A resident who needs cueing or encouragement to eat or drink, which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver.
 6. A resident who used to talk and interact with others and is now seldom speaking.
2. A resident has the option to designate a visitor who is a family, friend, guardian or other individual as an essential caregiver and the facility must allow in-[person] visitation for at **least 2 (two) hours daily** in addition to any other visitation authorized by the facility.

The resident must provide the facility with a written approval authorization that they agree to have consensual physical contact with their visitors.

3. Residents whose circumstances are different from those described in Point (1) could receive visits of families and friends daily between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. according to 59A-36.

The visits can extend up to 2 (two) hours and each resident can receive 2 persons of his choice maximum in each visit.

4. Facility may authorize, prior request of residents or family members in consideration to specific circumstances that visitation be in other times.
5. SANTA LUCIA ALF will have available a room or designated area where residents and visitors can stay comfortable and have proper privacy. SANTA LUCIA ALF will not require visitors to be vaccinated but will continue requiring following Facility's Visitation Protocol and CDC recommendations including: screening for fever, signs and symptoms of each visitor, to use mask and hand sanitation.

Visitors should sign in the Visitors Record & Screening Log when they arrive to the facility and will be assisted by Staff designated who will take them to the visitation area. Staff will look for the resident and take him/her to the area where he/she will be with his/her visitor(s), visitors should stay in this area. They can be in the residents' room only if the resident is bedridden.

6. SANTA LUCIA ALF will have available for visitors the policies and procedures including the Infection Control Protocol. Visitors will be required to adhere to the policies and procedure SANTA LUCIA ALF can refuse a visitor who does not pass the screening or refuses to comply with these policies and procedure
7. The Administrator and all the staff of Santa Luca ALF will ensure that these policies and procedures are followed, and residents and their families can maintain the contact wishes in a safe environment.

RESIDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONSENSUAL PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH THE VISITOR

RESIDENT NAME: _____

RESIDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

I acknowledge that I have been presented with information regarding my rights under the "NO PATIENT LEFT ALONE ACT". On Section 408.823 FS and consensual physical contact with the visitors of my choice will be:

VISITOR(S) DESIGNATION:

Name:	Relationship:
Name:	Relationship:
Name:	Relationship:

☐

YES, I choose to have physical contact with my visitors.

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NO, I choose not to have physical contact with my visitors.

RESIDENT/ RESPONSIBLE PARTY

ALF OWNER/ ADMINISTRATOR

DATE

DATE