

COVID-19 Update

Aug. 5, 2021

11 a.m.

The S.C. Department of Corrections is moving ahead with reopening visitation in phases, pending any new COVID-19 developments.

Limited in-person visitation for vaccinated female inmates at Leath CI begins Saturday. Visitation at Camille Graham was scheduled to begin Saturday but the institution has several units on COVID-19 quarantine. These visits will open once covid cases are cleared.

The department continues to offer limited in-person visitation for vaccinated minimum-security male inmates at Palmer, Livesay, Goodman and Manning correctional institutions. Vending also will be open for these visitations this weekend.

Here are some general parameters for visitation. Detailed information for both phases can be found [here](#).

- Visitors must have a negative COVID-19 test within three days of their scheduled visit or provide a COVID-19 vaccination record card showing that they have completed the vaccination process.
- Upon arrival, all visitors will be required to have their temperature taken and complete a mandatory questionnaire about COVID-19.
- Visitors exhibiting any signs/symptoms of the COVID-19 virus or a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will not be allowed to enter.
- Visitors must schedule visits ahead of time. Details on how to schedule these visits can be found on the SCDC website [here](#).
- Visitors must be on the inmate's approved SCDC visitation list.

Video visitation is now offered at all institutions. Find more information about that [here](#).

SCDC continues to offer COVID-19 vaccinations. So far the vaccine has been offered to all inmates, with 58 percent opting to become vaccinated.

All inmates continue to receive two free 5-minute telephone calls per week, even those inmates on telephone restriction or in RHU.

Volunteer and visitation suspensions at the remaining SCDC institutions continue through Aug. 31, 2021. Information about the next phases of visitation will be announced in the coming weeks.

All routine transfers between institutions continue to be suspended. Transfers for security and medical reasons will continue as needed.

Inmates will attend court and parole hearings virtually. If a court requires an inmate to attend a hearing in person, those requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis. If inmates are not available because of COVID-19-related circumstances, the courts will be advised.

These measures are put in place to ensure everyone's health and safety from the public health threat posed from COVID-19 and the potential impact on its staff, offenders, volunteers and visitors.

Department officials have been working closely with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control for the latest information and guidance about the spread of this virus. SCDC remains diligent in its efforts to protect offenders and staff. Future updates about COVID-19 will be posted on our website, www.doc.sc.gov.