

South Carolina Department of Corrections

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COLUMBIA, S.C. – As the plan to resume visitation moves forward, inmates at Wateree River Correctional Institution are scheduled to begin visiting on the weekend of Dec. 4-5.

Parameters for this will be the same as the first weeks of visitation in other institutions:

- Only one visitor per inmate.
- Visitors must be age 18 or older.
- Visits are one hour and must be scheduled ahead of time.
- Full details can be found on our website.

Institutions that are allowed visits this weekend are Leath, Camille Graham, Goodman, Manning and Palmer.

Also beginning next weekend, inmates at Leath and Camille Graham correctional institutions will be allowed to have up to three visitors at a time, with one being an adult. These inmates will then be allowed up to three visits per month.

Several other changes also are in place:

- All visitors will be screened for covid symptoms. Visitors age four and older will be given a face mask to wear. Personal face masks will not be allowed.
- Proof of vaccination is not required for visitors or inmates.
- Institutions with living areas on covid quarantine will not be able to visit. Information about this will be shared as soon as it is known, keeping in mind that covid testing is ongoing and circumstances can change quickly.
- Visitors are encouraged to use the restroom before arriving at the institution as restrooms will not be accessible.

As the department prepares to open visitation to medium- and close-security institutions, families and loved ones on approved visitation lists are asked to register and become familiar with the agency's new scheduling tool.

All visits will now be scheduled ahead of time through the GTL visit scheduler, located on the agency's website. This is the same process used to schedule virtual visits.

This will allow for a more streamlined check-in process and will allow more inmates to receive visits.

In order to visit, those on the approved visitation lists will need to do two things:

- Register on the SCDC/GTL scheduling website. To register, click on this <u>link</u>, which is found under the visitation tab on the agency's website.
- After logging into the site, schedule your visit.

The agency asks anyone planning to visit to register as soon as possible. Also, if you need to update your address or any other information on your account, please email a photograph or photocopy of your ID to visitation@doc.sc.gov.

There is no confirmed date when visits will resume for other institutions, but the agency expects to have information to release about that soon.