22VAC40-73-520. Activity and recreational requirements.

K. In addition to the required scheduled activities, there shall be unscheduled staff and resident interaction throughout the day that fosters an environment that promotes socialization opportunities for residents.


A. Any resident who does not have a serious cognitive impairment shall be allowed to freely leave the facility. A resident who has a serious cognitive impairment shall be subject to the provisions set forth in 22VAC40-73-1040 A or 22VAC40-73-1150 A.

B. Doors leading to the outside shall not be locked from the inside or secured from the inside in any manner that amounts to a lock, except that doors may be locked or secured in a manner that amounts to a lock in special care units as provided in 22VAC40-73-1150 A. Any devices used to lock or secure doors in any manner must be in accordance with applicable building and fire codes.

C. The facility shall provide freedom of movement for the residents to common areas and to their personal spaces. The facility shall not lock residents out of or inside their rooms.


A. Daily visits to residents in the facility shall be permitted.

B. Visiting hours shall not be restricted, except by a resident when it is the resident's choice.

C. The facility may establish a policy or guidelines so that visiting is not disruptive to other residents and facility security is not compromised. However, daily visits and visiting hours shall not be restricted as provided in subsections A and B of this section.

D. The facility shall encourage regular family involvement with the resident and shall provide ample opportunities for family participation in activities at the facility.

E. During a declared public health emergency related to a communicable disease of public health threat, each assisted living facility shall establish a protocol to allow residents to receive visits from a rabbi, priest, minister, or clergy of any religious denomination or sect consistent with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and

subject to compliance with any executive order, order of public health, Department guidance, or any other applicable federal or state guidance having the effect of limiting visitation. The protocol may restrict the frequency and duration of visits, may require visits to be conducted virtually using interactive audio or video technology, and any such protocol may require the person visiting a resident to comply with all reasonable requirements of the assisted living facility adopted to protect the health and safety of the person, residents, and staff of the assisted living facility.