

FAQ on Visits

Q1: When can a detainee receive visits after being admitted to a correctional facility?

ANWSER:

Detainees (excluding those prohibited from visits) can receive visits after being admitted or transferred to a correctional facility and completing the intake procedures to confirm their identity, during the designated visiting hours.

Q2: What are the visiting hours of the facility? Can visits be arranged on consecutive holidays or public holidays?

ANWSER:

1. The visiting hours of correctional facilities are based on the "Work Calendar for Government Agencies of the Republic of China" announced annually by the Directorate-General of Personnel Administration, Executive Yuan.
2. To facilitate those unable to visit on weekdays, visits may be arranged on at least one public holiday per month or split into two half-days on different public holidays. The dates will be announced in advance on the facility's website and bulletin boards in the visiting rooms.
3. Due to the special nature of working hours in minimum-security prisons, visiting hours are set by the facility according to work conditions.

Q3: How to arrange a visit and what is the procedure?

ANWSER:

1. The general visiting procedure is as follows; yet, it shall literally refer to the facility's specific announcements:

- (1) Obtain a number ticket and fill out an application form at the service desk.
 - (2) Present identification documents at the registration window in the visiting room.
 - (3) Prepare identification documents and wait for your turn (waiting in batches).
 - (4) Visit at the window (communication, video, or audio recording equipment is not allowed during the visit).
2. Required documents: National ID, driver's license, household registration transcript, household registration book (for children over 5 years without a National ID), passport, or other identity documents with birth date, ID number, address, and photo. Foreign nationals should present their passport, residence permit, or entry/exit certificate. If visiting a detainee with specific restrictions, relevant documents proving the relationship with the detainee are required.
 3. Each visit is limited to three people. Approved visitors may bring children under 12, and these children are not counted in the limit.

Q4: How to check if a detainee is in a correctional facility or if a visit can be arranged?

ANSWER:

1. After a detainee is admitted, the correctional facility will send a "Detainee Admission Notification" to inform about visits, permitted items, and related regulations, and to remind family members to beware of scam calls.
2. Due to the Personal Data Protection Act, facilities can only provide detainee information if the detainee has completed a "Detainee Information Release Consent Form." For personal details such as charges, sentence length, and release date, please directly consult the detainee.

Q5: What are the reasons for a facility to refuse a visit?

ANWSER:

Visits may be refused for the following reasons:

1. Failure to bring identification documents, incomplete registration, or being an unauthorized visitor.
2. The detainee has reached the maximum number of visits allowed.
3. The detainee refuses the visit.
4. The visitor or detainee is prohibited from visits by court or prosecutor order.
5. Actions that disrupt facility order or safety.
6. Other legal or regulatory restrictions or prohibitions on visits.

Q6: What are the reasons for a facility to terminate a visit?

ANWSER:

Visits may be terminated if there is disruption to facility order or safety, or if communication, video, or audio recording equipment is used during the visit.

Q7: What are the visit frequency limits and visitor eligibility based on detainee classification?

ANWSER:

1. Fourth-level prisoners are generally allowed one visit per week; third-level prisoners, one or two visits per week; second-level prisoners, one visit every three days; first-level prisoners, unlimited visits, provided prison management and discipline are not affected. Inmates not eligible for progressive treatment are allowed one visit per week. Fourth-level prisoners can be visited by relatives; third-level and above prisoners can also be visited by non-relatives if it does not hinder rehabilitation. Visits for prisoners not eligible for progressive treatment

are unrestricted unless specified by regulations or the prisoner's refusal.

2. Rehabilitation prisoners can have one visit per week from immediate family; after entering psychological counseling, they may be visited by non-relatives or family, subject to approval from the facility head, if it benefits the rehabilitation process.
3. Weeks are counted from Sunday to Saturday; holidays are included in the day count.

Q8: Can ex-in-laws or ex-spouses accompany their biological children to visit a detainee?

ANSWER:

1. To maintain family ties and promote positive family relationships, the facility may approve visits from ex-spouses or in-laws accompanying the detainee's children, subject to relevant regulations and authority discretion. This is not applicable if the detainee refuses the visit.
2. When reviewing such visit applications, the facility will require identity verification and will check household registration details to confirm the relationship before granting permission.

Q9: Can additional visits be arranged for major family events?

ANSWER:

In case of major family events (e.g., emergencies, critical illness, or death of a family member), detainees may use communication equipment for timely contact. Family members visiting the facility can explain the situation to request extended visit time, additional visits, or other flexible arrangements.

Q10: Can visits be arranged if the detainee's spouse or immediate relatives are held in different facilities?

ANSWER:

1. If a detainee's spouse or immediate relatives are held in another facility, the detainee can apply for visits using communication equipment.
2. Procedure: Both detainees and their relatives must submit relevant documents to their respective facilities.
3. If either party is prohibited from visits by court or prosecutor order, the facility will deny the application.

Q11: What is a visit using communication equipment? What are the application procedures and regulations?

ANSWER:

To facilitate visits for detainees with their family, relatives, lawyers, or others in specific circumstances, correctional facilities provide telephone, remote visit, or other communication equipment for real-time contact. The targets, conditions, application procedures, frequency, time, number of visitors, communication methods, reasons for refusal or termination, fees, and other rules are outlined in the prison and detention center regulations for visits using communication equipment and published information by the facility.

Q12: Can visits be scheduled in advance?

ANSWER:

1. To reduce waiting times for detainees' spouses, family, or relatives during visits, the public can schedule the next visit after completing the current visit registration on-site, or inquire by phone in advance.
2. The website for scheduling visits at correctional facilities is <http://www.vst.moj.gov.tw/> for general visit reservations.