Printed November 5, 2026

Last checked against official sources: November 3, 2026

Mailing this to someone inside? Print one side only, black ink, plain white paper. No staples or clips. Put their full name and number on the envelope. Some facilities limit pages per envelope: check their mail rules first.

FEDERAL PRISON GUIDE

VISIT PACKET: FCI MCKEAN

Federal Correctional Institution · Lewis Run, PA · Phone 814-362-8900

VISIT CARD · CUT OUT AND KEEP IN THE CAR

WHEN	HOURS	WHO CAN COME
Sunday, Monday and federal holidays The visiting rules list only Sunday, Monday and federal holidays.[1]	**7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** FCI: be in the front lobby for processing by 9:00 a.m., because of the 10:00 a.m.[1]	**6 visitors at a time: no more than 3 adults and 3 children** Up to 6 visitors at a time: no more than 3 adults and 3 children.[1]
BRING	**CALL FIRST**	
Photo ID A valid state or government photo ID: military ID, driver's license, passport.[1]	**814-362-8900** Call before you drive, every time.	

THE BOP'S OWN PAPERS DISAGREE. The McKean handbook (updated **November 14, 2023**) says the FCI is open **Saturdays, Sundays and federal holidays, 8:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** and the camp 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The newer visiting rules (**August 25, 2025**) say **Sunday, Monday and holidays, 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Go by the newer rules, but call 814-362-8900 before you drive. Sunday is the only day both papers list.[1]

BEFORE YOU GO: GET ON THE LIST

1. At the first counselor lecture, they get the visiting guidelines and a **Visiting List Request form**. The form name and number you must fill out are not given in the McKean papers (the BOP national visitor form is BP-A0629; unconfirmed here).
2. The counselor prepares the official visiting list.
3. Friends must have known them before prison. The warden must approve any exception in writing.
4. Ordinarily the list holds **no more than 10 friends and associates**. The warden can allow more.
5. A background check is done first. They tell you if you were approved. Do not drive until you are approved.[1]

AT THE DOOR

CHILDREN	Children 16 and older must be on the approved list and show ID. Children under 16 must come with a parent or guardian on the approved list.[1]
SEATING	Adult visitors sit across from them, in seats the officers choose.[1]
MONEY FOR VENDING MACHINES	A total of **$40.00 per adult** in change or in $1 or $5 bills only. Money cannot be handed to them. You can buy items for them, and everything must be consumed in the visiting room.[1]
WHAT YOU CAN CARRY	One small clear coin purse no bigger than 3 by 5 inches, ID, a jacket or coat (hung on the rack once inside), jewelry you are wearing, religious headgear, feminine hygiene items, and only enough prescription medicine for the visit. No food, gifts, games, needlework, pocketbooks, reading material, mail, photographs or toys.[1]
FOR A BABY	4 diapers, 3 clear plastic baby bottles with prepared formula, 1 sealed container of baby food, 1 clear cup, 1 plastic serving spoon, 1 small clear tote bag, 1 clear zip-lock bag of baby wipes and 1 baby blanket. The papers also list "eight baby wipes and four small jars of baby food" in the visitor guide. Nursing mothers have a restroom.[1]
DRESS CODE	No pants with holes, spandex or tight clothes (yoga pants, leggings, jeggings), midriff tops, strapless clothes, see-through clothes, military clothes (camouflage, khaki, green), shorts, low-cut blouses, tank, tube, sleeveless or muscle shirts (shirts must cover the shoulders), profane or sexual slogans, flip-flops or open-toe shoes without a heel strap, watches or smart accessories, scarves or gloves, sunglasses, grey sweat pants or shirts, or gum. No hats, bandanas, do-rags or other headgear except approved religious headgear. Everyone wears shoes, children too.[1]
TOUCHING	The visiting rules mention photographs with adults kissing are not permitted.[1]
WHEN IT GETS CROWDED	A two-hour limit starts. It applies first to special visits, then to those who visit most often. If the room is still full, visits end for people who live within 200 miles of McKean County. The room holds no more than 92 inmates and visitors combined.[1]

ALL VISITING DAYS AND HOURS

WHERE	DAYS	HOURS
FCI (main prison)	Sunday, Monday and federal holidays	7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Satellite camp (SCP)	Sunday, Monday and federal holidays	7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Special Housing Unit: Administrative Detention	Sunday only, 1 hour by video, one inmate per time slot. Approved by the Unit Manager and Captain at least two weeks ahead.	Within regular hours
Special Housing Unit: Disciplinary Segregation	Monday only, 1 hour by video, one inmate per time slot. Approved at least two weeks ahead.	Within regular hours

FCI: be in the front lobby for processing by 9:00 a.m., because of the 10:00 a.m. count. After a clear count visitors are processed again, but you must be in the front lobby by 12:00 p.m. Camp: be in the camp lobby by 9:00 a.m., and after the count by 12:30 p.m. On weekends and holidays everyone must be in the visiting room by 9:30 a.m. for the count, and no one goes in or out until it clears.[1]

The visiting rules list only Sunday, Monday and federal holidays. Changes are posted on the prison website.

GETTING THERE

From the handbook	The prison is in northwest Pennsylvania between Bradford and Kane, about 90 miles south of Buffalo, off Route 59, a quarter mile east of the intersection of State Route 59 and U.S. Route 219. The area is served by Buffalo Airport and Bradford Airport. Enterprise Car Rental in Bradford: 814-362-6500. The address is 6975 Route 59, Lewis Run, PA 16738.

WHAT TO WEAR TO A VISIT

The BOP beats to its own drum. The front desk has the final say. Keep a spare outfit in the car.

FCI MCKEAN

Rules dated **August 25, 2025** (1 year old)

Official rules (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/mck/mck_visit.pdf) En español (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/mck/mck_visit_sp.pdf)

Skirts and dresses	Skirts and dresses must cover the knees (0 inches above).
Shorts	No shorts.
Colors to avoid	No khaki, tan, beige, brown, or light brown clothing. No green fatigues. No grey sweat pants or shirts (attachment only).
Leggings, spandex	No spandex, yoga pants, leggings, or jeggings. No tight-fitting pants; skirts/dresses not form fitting.
Bras and metal	Not in the written rules. Some prisons ban underwire bras anyway, and the penalty can be more than being sent home. Wear a sports bra or a bra with no wire.
Camouflage, military	No camouflage. No military clothing like field jackets, fatigues, or BDUs.
Shoes	Open-toe shoes only with a heel strap. No flip-flop style shoes without a heel strap.
Children	Not in the written rules.

ALL 28 RULES, IN THE BOP'S OWN WORDS

LENGTH AND FIT

- Skirts and dresses must cover the knees (0 inches above).
  BOP wording: "must cover the knees."
- No shorts.
  BOP wording: "No shorts are considered appropriate apparel and will not be"
- No tank tops, sleeveless, or muscle shirts; shoulders covered.
  BOP wording: "No tank top, tube top, strapless/sleeveless top shirts, or muscle"
- No low-cut blouses.
  BOP wording: "• No low-cut blouses"
- No midriff tops.
  BOP wording: "No midriff tops, strapless garments, garments which expose private"
- No strapless garments or tube tops.
  BOP wording: "No midriff tops, strapless garments, garments which expose private"
- No see-through clothing.
  BOP wording: "parts of the body or see-through clothing."
- No tight-fitting pants; skirts/dresses not form fitting.
  BOP wording: "Skirts and dresses will be permitted; however, must not be form fitting and"
- No spandex, yoga pants, leggings, or jeggings.

BOP wording: "No pants with holes, spandex, or tight fitting (e.g., yoga pants,"

- No pants with holes.
  BOP wording: "No pants with holes, spandex, or tight fitting (e.g., yoga pants,"
- No sweatpants or sweatshirts.
  BOP wording: "• No sweatpants or sweatshirts"

COLORS AND UNIFORMS

- No khaki, tan, beige, brown, or light brown clothing.
  BOP wording: "similarly colored (brown, light brown, beige, khaki, or tan) will not be"
- No green fatigues.
  BOP wording: "No military clothing (i.e., field jackets, camouflage, khaki, green"
- No grey sweat pants or shirts (attachment only).
  BOP wording: "No grey colored sweat pants or shirts"
- No camouflage.
  BOP wording: "No military clothing (i.e., field jackets, camouflage, khaki, green"
- No military clothing like field jackets, fatigues, or BDUs.
  BOP wording: "No military clothing (i.e., field jackets, camouflage, khaki, green"

BRAS, UNDERWEAR AND METAL

- All visitors wear undergarments; 16+ must cover breast/chest.
  BOP wording: "Undergarments will be worn by all visitors."
- No watches, Fitbits, or smart accessories.
  BOP wording: "No watches, Fitbits, or otherwise considered "smart" accessories"

SHOES

- Open-toe shoes only with a heel strap.
  BOP wording: "(for safety reasons, a strap around the heel must be present). All"
- No flip-flop style shoes without a heel strap.
  BOP wording: "No flip-flop style/open toe shoes without a strap around the heel"

HATS, HOODS AND COATS

- No ball caps, hats, bandanas, sweat bands, or do-rags.
  BOP wording: "caps, hats, bandanas, sweat bands, do-rags, or any other type of"
- Kufis, yarmulkes, turbans, crowns, headbands, religious head wraps allowed.
  BOP wording: "head gear identified as the following: kufis, yarmulkes, turbans,"
- No coats or sweatshirts with hoods.
  BOP wording: "No coats with hoods or sweatshirts with hoods"

EVERYTHING ELSE

- No profane, sexually explicit, or inappropriate slogans.
  BOP wording: "No profane, sexually explicit, or inappropriate slogans on clothing"
- No scarves, gloves, or sunglasses.
  BOP wording: "• No scarves or gloves"
- No stilettos.

BOP wording: "• No silettos"

- Avoid suggestive, provocative and revealing clothing.
  BOP wording: "All visitors will be dressed appropriately and avoid suggestive, provocative"

IF THEY SAY NO

- IDO or Operations Lieutenant may deny visit for inappropriate clothing.
  BOP wording: "Lieutenant may deny a visit based on inappropriate or provocative"

MAIL AND THE MAILING ADDRESS

Your full name
Your street address
City, State ZIP

STAMP

Their committed name, exactly as the BOP Inmate Locator shows it

Reg. No. _____-___
FCI McKean
P.O. Box 8000
Bradford, PA 16701

The envelope, filled in. Their name and number must match the BOP Inmate Locator exactly.[2]

Ask your loved one for their unit and whether they are at the FCI or the camp.[2]

> **USE THE P.O. BOX ONLY.** Never mail to the street address.

THE MAIL RULES

MONEY	Never put money in a letter to the prison. Mail it to the BOP lockbox in Des Moines, or use Western Union Quick Collect. The deposit envelope must not contain anything meant for them. (See the Money tab.)[2]
OTHER MAIL RULES	We could not read current envelope, card or paper rules in the McKean handbook. Call the prison before you send photos, cards or packages.[2]

Sources

1. MCK 5267.09f, Visiting Regulations (August 25, 2025) bop.gov/locations/institutions/mck/mck_visit.pdf
2. FCI McKean Admission and Orientation Handbook (updated November 14, 2023) bop.gov/locations/institutions/mck/mck_ao-handbook.pdf