Printed November 4, 2026 Last checked against official sources: November 3, 2026

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FEDERAL PRISON GUIDE

VISIT PACKET: FCI BUTNER MEDIUM II

Federal Correctional Institution · Butner, NC · Phone 919-575-8000

VISITING

VISITING HOURS AND DAYS

WHO	DAYS	HOURS
Prison (FCI II)	Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays	8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Special Housing Unit (SHU), administrative detention status	Mondays (not federal holidays). 2 hours	9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Special Housing Unit (SHU), disciplinary segregation status	Mondays (not federal holidays). 1 hour	12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Visitor processing stops at least **30 minutes before visiting ends**. On weekends and holidays it stops at **9:15 a.m.** until the 10:00 a.m. count clears. If you arrive after the cutoff, go back to your car and wait. Nobody can wait in the lobby, and nobody may leave the visiting room until a clear count is called.

No visiting except Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays (plus SHU on Monday). No make-up day when a federal holiday falls on a Monday. [1]

The BOP's own papers disagree. The handbook (revised June 2008) says something different: visits Monday, Thursday and Friday from 2:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The 2026 rules (April 1, 2026) list only Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays. Go by the 2026 rules and call 919-575-8000 before you drive.

THE RULES AT THE DOOR: ID, POINTS, WHAT YOU CAN BRING

HOW MANY PEOPLE

16 visiting points a month. Each visiting day uses **4 points**, so that is **4 visiting days a month**. Federal holidays use no points. Up to **6 visitors a day**, with up to **4 adults** at one time (3 adults and 3 children is fine). More than 6 needs approval from the Unit Manager and Captain. A 16 or 17 year old without a parent or immediate family member needs written permission from the Unit Manager and Captain. [1]

ID	Everyone **16 or older** needs valid government photo ID: state driver's license, federal ID, military ID, passport or state ID card. Altered, defaced or expired ID is not accepted. A 16 or 17 year old who is not with a parent, guardian or immediate family member 18 or older needs that person's written approval. [1]
MONEY FOR VENDING MACHINES	Up to **$20 in coins**. No paper money. Put it in a small clear plastic coin bag no bigger than 8 x 6 x 2 inches. You may not leave money with staff for their account. [1]
WHAT YOU CAN CARRY	Your ID, the coin bag, sanitary products (staff cannot refuse you over them), and a few personal items such as one wedding ring set, one religious medallion, one religious head covering and one pair of stud earrings. [1]
FOR A BABY (AGE 3 OR YOUNGER)	3 clear bottles, unopened formula, 3 jars of unopened baby food, 1 baby spoon, 2 small receiving blankets, 3 diapers, 1 small sealed pack of wipes, 1 change of clothes and 1 pacifier. **No strollers or baby carriers.** [1]
NOT ALLOWED IN	Watches, sunglasses, hats, paper money, large purses, wallets, bags, pocket knives, pepper spray, cameras, recorders, radios, umbrellas, pens and pencils, paper documents, newspapers, magazines, credit cards, photographs, cosmetics, gum, candy, outside food, cigarettes, lighters, e-cigarettes, games, playing cards, toys, hoop earrings and any communication device. No tobacco or nicotine of any kind. Items that are not dangerous can stay in your car or a locker. [1]
WHAT NOT TO WEAR	No khaki, camouflage or ranger green, outerwear, revealing or form-fitting clothes, sleeveless shirts, open-toe shoes or flip-flops, or anything above the knee. Shorts and dresses must reach the knee. No clothing with offensive words or logos. [1]
TOUCHING	Handshake, embrace and kiss are allowed only at the start and end of the visit, in a marked area. [1]
WHEN IT GETS CROWDED	Staff end visits starting with volunteers, then the first visitor in. They also look at whether you live nearby, how often you visit and **how far you traveled**. Out-of-state visitors who do not visit often get consideration. [1]
VISITOR FORM ON ARRIVAL	Every visitor signs the "Notification to Visitor" form (BP-224) in the lobby. No visit if you refuse. [1]
CHILDREN'S AREA	Children may play only in the marked play area, with a parent watching. Inmates may not go in the play area. [1]
NO LOCKERS	There are **no lockers at FCI II**. Leave everything in your locked car. [1]
SPECIAL HOUSING UNIT VISITS	In the SHU, your loved one is taken out of restraints in the visiting room and put back in them after. SHU visitors sit in a marked area in front of the officer's desk. People who need to be kept apart are not in the room at the same time. [1]

HOW TO GET ON THE VISITING LIST

1. Their counselor prepares the visiting list. The initial list is ordinarily ready within **seven days** of getting the information. The Butner rules give no form number. (The BOP's national visitor form is BP-A0629; not confirmed in Butner's papers.)

2. They can ask for **10 friends and associates** on the list, on top of immediate family.
3. Friends and associates must usually have known them before prison. Exceptions need the Warden's approval, asked through the Unit Team.
4. Unit staff try to get background information on anyone who is not immediate family.
5. The list can be changed at any time under BOP policy. If the Warden denies a visitor, the unit team gives your loved one a Denial Notice with the reason.
6. Admission or holdover status: only immediate family may visit until the list is checked. Unit staff find family in the Central File.
7. Do not drive until your loved one tells you the unit team approved you.

Fill out the visiting form for Butner Medium II

[1]

DRIVING DIRECTIONS (FROM THE BOP)

FROM RALEIGH	U.S. 70 West to I-85 North. Take I-85 North 9 miles to exit 189. Turn left on Central Avenue. Go straight to Veazy Street and turn right. Go to the stop sign and turn left onto Old Highway 75. Go about 1 mile. The Low (LSCI) and Medium I (FCI) prisons are on the first right. The camp is on the second right and the medical center (FMC) is on the third right.
FROM DURHAM	Take I-85 North 9 miles to exit 189. Turn left on Central Avenue. Go straight to Veazy Street and turn right. Go to the stop sign and turn left onto Old Highway 75. Go about 1 mile. The Low (LSCI) and Medium I (FCI) prisons are on the first right. The camp is on the second right and the medical center (FMC) is on the third right.
TAXIS	Hamilton Limousine & Shuttle 919-596-1193. ABC Cab 919-682-0437. Broadway-Yellow Cab 919-682-6111. Durham & Raleigh Taxi 919-688-6121.

Street address for your GPS: Old Nc Hwy 75, Butner, Nc 27509. [2]

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 BUTNER MEDIUM II

Rules dated **April 1, 2026** (this year)

Official rules (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/btf/bux_visit.pdf) En español (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/btf/bux_visit_sp.pdf)

Skirts and dresses	Shorts and dresses must be at least knee length (0 inches above knee).
Shorts	Shorts allowed only if knee length, touching the knee when standing.
Colors to avoid	No khaki clothing. No ranger green clothing.
Leggings, spandex	No form-fitting clothing.
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 clothing.
Shoes	No open or peep-toed shoes. No flip flops.
Children	Not in the written rules.

ALL 17 RULES, IN THE BOP'S OWN WORDS

LENGTH AND FIT

- Shorts and dresses must be at least knee length (0 inches above knee).
  BOP wording: "Shorts and dresses must be"
- Shorts allowed only if knee length, touching the knee when standing.
  BOP wording: "knee length at a minimum. Knee length is considered a length where the garment will touch"
- No sleeveless shirts.
  BOP wording: "Sleeveless Shirts Visiting Regulations"
- No form-fitting clothing.
  BOP wording: "Form Fitting Clothing"

COLORS AND UNIFORMS

- No khaki clothing.
  BOP wording: "Unauthorized: Clothing Khaki Clothing"
- No ranger green clothing.
  BOP wording: "Camouflage/Ranger Green clothing"
- No camouflage clothing.
  BOP wording: "Camouflage/Ranger Green clothing"

BRAS, UNDERWEAR AND METAL

- Only wedding ring set, religious medallion, and stud earrings allowed; no watches.
  BOP wording: "1 wedding ring set Sanitary products 1 religious medallion"

SHOES

- No open or peep-toed shoes.
  BOP wording: "Open or peep toed shoes"
- No flip flops.
  BOP wording: "Open or peep toed shoes Flip Flops"

HATS, HOODS AND COATS

- No hats or visors.
  BOP wording: "Sun Shades Hats Visors"
- One religious headwear item authorized.
  BOP wording: "1 religious medallion 1 religious headwear"
- No outerwear.
  BOP wording: "Camouflage/Ranger Green clothing Outerwear"

EVERYTHING ELSE

- No clothing with offensive language or logos.
  BOP wording: "No item of clothing displaying offensive language"
- No revealing clothing.
  BOP wording: "Any Revealing Clothing"

IF THEY SAY NO

- Visits denied for dress code violations; denial form completed.
  BOP wording: "Visits will be denied for visitors failing to"
- Operations Lieutenant or IDO makes final decision on attire.
  BOP wording: "will make the final decision."

MAIL AND THE MAILING ADDRESS

Use their committed name exactly as the BOP Inmate Locator shows it. The name and number below are examples (JOHN ANTHONY SMITH-JONES, 12345-678).

JOHN ANTHONY SMITH-JONES
Reg. No. 12345-678
FCI Butner Medium II
P.O. Box 1500
Butner, Nc 27509

Their name, register number and unit go on the envelope. [2]

Use the P.O. Box only. Never mail to the street address (Old Nc Hwy 75, Butner, Nc 27509).

MAIL DAYS	Mail is handed out Monday through Friday. There is no mail service on weekends and holidays. [2]
PACKAGES	Every package needs approval first. [2]
THEIR LETTERS TO YOU	Outgoing mail is unsealed when it goes in the mailbox, and staff may inspect it. Their name, register number, unit and return address go in the upper left corner. [2]
LEGAL AND SPECIAL MAIL	Opened only in front of them. [2]
MONEY	Never put money in a letter. It goes to the BOP lockbox in Des Moines, Iowa (see the Money tab). [2]

Books and magazines: at a medium security prison, books and magazines must come straight from a publisher, book club or bookstore (Amazon, for example), never from home.

Sources

1. BUX 5267.09A, Visiting Regulations, Federal Correctional Complex Butner (April 1, 2026) bop.gov/locations/institutions/btf/bux_visit.pdf
2. FCI II Butner Inmate Handbook (revised June 2008) bop.gov/locations/institutions/btf/btf_ao-handbook.pdf