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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 PEKIN

Federal Correctional Institution · Pekin, IL · Phone 309-346-8588

VISIT CARD · CUT OUT AND KEEP IN THE CAR

WHEN

Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays.

The visiting rules say the visiting room is closed Monday through Friday.[1]

HOURS

8:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Visitors are not processed into the visiting room after 2:30 p.m.[1]

VISITS

40 points on the 1st of each month

Each person gets 40 points on the 1st of each month.[1]

WHO CAN COME

5 visitors at once

No more than 5 visitors at once, counting infants and children under 3.[1]

BRING

Photo ID

Everyone 16 or older needs a valid photo ID, such as a driver's license or a state or government photo ID card.[1]

CALL FIRST

309-346-8588

Call before you drive, every time.

THE BOP'S OWN PAPERS DISAGREE. The same visiting document (PEK 5267.09P, **March 20, 2023**) disagrees with itself. The main rules give the FCI **Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays only**, 8:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The sheet meant for visitors (Attachment 2) says **Saturday, Sunday, Monday and holidays**, with Monday from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The camp is 8:30 a.m. in the main rules and 8:00 a.m. on the visitor sheet. The rules also say the camp is on the point system, while the visitor sheet says it is not. The camp handbook (revised January 2023) gives the camp Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and up to 7 visitors, where the visiting rules say 5. **Call 309-346-8588 before you drive.**[1]

BEFORE YOU GO: GET ON THE LIST

1. Your loved one's **unit counselor** gives them a **Visitor Information form (BP-629)** for each person, including immediate family. They mail it to you.
2. Fill it out, sign it and **mail it directly back to the unit counselor**.
3. The counselor tells your loved one who was approved. **They** tell you. Do not drive until you are approved.
4. Immediate family (mother, father, stepparents, foster parents, brothers, sisters, spouse and children) is ordinarily approved. If your loved one lacks some details, family can be listed for 30 days while the rest comes in.
5. The list ordinarily holds **no more than ten friends and associates**, who must have known them before prison unless an exception is approved.
6. Someone not on the list can write the prison **at least two weeks before** the visit to explain. If approved, an authorization is sent to bring.[1]

AT THE DOOR

CHILDREN	Children under 16 do not need to be on the list, but must come with an approved adult. Ages 16 and 17 alone need written approval from a parent or legal guardian. Inmates may not go into the children's play area.[1]
SCREENING	At the main prison everyone goes through a **metal detector and an x-ray** for belongings, with random drug-trace tests and same-sex pat searches. You get a hand stamp that is checked under a black light when you leave. You can refuse a search, but then you cannot visit that day.[1]
WHAT YOU CAN CARRY	In a clear plastic bag no bigger than 18 by 18 inches: a clear change purse or billfold, **money, not more than $30.00, or one debit or credit card**, comb or hairbrush, baby bottles, a reasonable number of diapers and a small blanket, vacuum-sealed baby food in its original container, one set of baby clothes, a sweater or light jacket or coat, feminine hygiene items, one set of car keys. Life-saving medicine only: Epi-Pen, prescribed asthma inhaler, nitroglycerin tablets in the prescription bottle. **No food, books, magazines, photos, cameras or recorders.** The camp handbook says no more than $20.00, in bills no bigger than $5.00.[1]
WHAT NOT TO WEAR	No skirts or dresses above the middle of the knee, no shorts above the middle of the knee, no halter tops, strapless tops, tank tops or revealing tops (see-through, tight, spandex, sleeveless, cut-off, midriff, jeans with holes, sweats). No military clothing or camouflage. **No khaki or light brown**. No hats or headbands. No shirts with profane or gang writing. No open-toed shoes.[1]
TOUCHING	Handshake, embrace and kiss only at the start and end. Before a kiss, both people go to the officer's station, and the officer looks in their mouths with a flashlight.[1]
WHEN IT GETS CROWDED	Visits can be cut to a minimum of one hour. People who visit rarely or traveled far are among the last to be ended.[1]
ONCE YOU LEAVE	If you leave the visiting room you cannot come back that day.[1]

ALL VISITING DAYS AND HOURS

WHERE	DAYS	HOURS
Main prison (FCI)	Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays. Closed Monday through Friday.	8:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Camp	Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays	8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Special Housing Unit (SHU)	Video visit through TRULINCS in the front lobby, during the regular visiting periods. One 30-minute block per day, no more than 4 visitors.	Regular hours

Visitors are not processed into the visiting room after 2:30 p.m. No one may be on the grounds before 8:00 a.m., and processing starts at 8:15 a.m. Anyone arriving after 9:30 a.m. on weekends and holidays waits until the morning count is cleared. To go in before the count, be in the lobby by 8:45 a.m. Visitors who are not visiting may not wait in the lobby or parking lot.[1]

The visiting rules say the visiting room is closed Monday through Friday. See the note below about the sheet in the same document.

GETTING THERE

Location	FCI Pekin is at 2600 S. Second Street, Pekin, Illinois, on Route 29 south of the city of Pekin, about 5 miles from Interstate 74. The visiting rules say it is 2½ hours southwest of Chicago and 3 hours northeast of St. Louis.
Driving routes (camp handbook)	From St. Louis, take 55 North to 155 North to 74 West to 29 South. From Chicago, take 55 South to 74 West to 29 South. From Indianapolis, take 74 West to 29 South. From Des Moines, take 74 East to 29 South.

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 PEKIN

Rules dated **March 20, 2023** (3 years old)

Official rules (PDF) (bop.gov/locations/institutions/pek/pek_visit.pdf) No Spanish version posted

3 years old. Ask your loved one to check the copy posted in the unit before you drive.

Skirts and dresses	No skirt or dress above middle of knee (0 inches); slits likewise.
Shorts	Shorts allowed only if not above middle of the knee.
Colors to avoid	No khaki or light brown clothing of any type. No green fatigues.
Leggings, spandex	No spandex or jeggings. No excessively tight-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. No military clothing such as field jackets or green fatigues.
Shoes	No open-toed shoes.
Children	Not in the written rules.

ALL 20 RULES, IN THE BOP'S OWN WORDS

LENGTH AND FIT

- No skirt or dress above middle of knee (0 inches); slits likewise.
  BOP wording: "a. Miniskirts (and mini dresses) to include any skirt or dress above"
- Shorts allowed only if not above middle of the knee.
  BOP wording: "b. Shorts worn above the middle of the knee."
- No sleeveless apparel or tank tops, male or female.
  BOP wording: "f. Tank tops - male or female."
- No cut-off tops or midriff-baring tops.
  BOP wording: "sweats, sleeveless, mid-drifts, jeans with holes, jeggins etc.)"
- No halter tops, halter dresses, or strapless dresses/tops.
  BOP wording: "c. Halter tops or halter dresses."
- No transparent apparel.
  BOP wording: "transparent, excessively tight fitting (spandex), cut-off tops,"
- No excessively tight-fitting clothing.
  BOP wording: "transparent, excessively tight fitting (spandex), cut-off tops,"
- No spandex or jeggings.
  BOP wording: "transparent, excessively tight fitting (spandex), cut-off tops,"
- No jeans with holes.
  BOP wording: "sweats, sleeveless, mid-drifts, jeans with holes, jeggins etc.)"

- No sweats.
  BOP wording: "sweats, sleeveless, mid-drifts, jeans with holes, jeggins etc.)"

COLORS AND UNIFORMS

- No khaki or light brown clothing of any type.
  BOP wording: "No khaki or light brown clothing of any type will be allowed in the"
- No green fatigues.
  BOP wording: "g. Military clothing (i.e., field jackets, camouflage, green fatigues)."
- No camouflage.
  BOP wording: "g. Military clothing (i.e., field jackets, camouflage, green fatigues)."
- No military clothing such as field jackets or green fatigues.
  BOP wording: "g. Military clothing (i.e., field jackets, camouflage, green fatigues)."

BRAS, UNDERWEAR AND METAL

- Jewelry may be worn but not carried in.
  BOP wording: "h. Jewelry worn (no jewelry will be carried in)."

SHOES

- No open-toed shoes.
  BOP wording: "J. No open toed shoes."

HATS, HOODS AND COATS

- No hats or headbands.
  BOP wording: "h. No hats or headbands."
- A sweater, light jacket, or coat may be brought in.
  BOP wording: "A sweater, light jacket or coat."

EVERYTHING ELSE

- No profane, sexually explicit, gang, or inappropriate symbols/writing on shirts.
  BOP wording: "Shirts of any kind that display profane, sexually explicit or illegal"

IF THEY SAY NO

- Officers deny visits when clothing is not conservative or family-appropriate.
  BOP wording: "Officers are to deny visits"

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 Pekin
P.O. Box 5000
Pekin, IL 61555

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

The camp handbook gives the camp address as: Federal Prison Camp, P.O. Box 5000, Pekin, Illinois 61555-5000, with their committed name and register number. If those are not on a letter it is returned.[2]

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

THE MAIL RULES

MAIL DAYS	Mail is processed Monday through Friday except federal holidays.[2]
LEGAL MAIL	Incoming legal mail must say "Special Mail - Open Only In The Presence of Inmate," with the sender's name and title in the return address. It is opened and searched in front of them.[2]
BOOKS AND MAGAZINES	Hard cover books and newspapers must come directly from the publisher or a bookstore.[2]
OTHER INMATES	Writing to inmates at other federal or state prisons needs prior written approval.[2]
MONEY	Never mail cash, money orders or checks to the prison. They go to the BOP lockbox, P.O. Box 474701, Des Moines, IA 50947-0001 (see the Money tab). Money sent to the prison is returned.[2]

Sources

1. PEK 5267.09P, Visiting Regulations (March 20, 2023) bop.gov/locations/institutions/pek/pek_visit.pdf
2. Federal Prison Camp Pekin Admission and Orientation Handbook (revised January 2023; the file bop.gov links as the main handbook) bop.gov/locations/institutions/pek/pek_ao-handbook.pdf