

Essential Care Partner - Process & Approval

The Essential Care Partner (ECP) Program allows a designated individual to support a patient’s care and recovery. To ensure safety and consistency, all ECP requests follow a standardized review and approval process based on defined eligibility criteria and patient-centered care principles.

	<p>Submission request</p> <p>The patient or their Substitute Decision Maker (SDM) submits a request by completing the ECP application form to designate an Essential Care Partner and submits the physical application form to care team member for review.</p>
	<p>Review</p> <p>The ECP application form is reviewed by the appropriate care team member(s) to ensure it meets the program’s eligibility criteria, including patient needs, care requirements, and safety considerations.</p>
	<p>Approval</p> <p>The manager or delegate reviews the assessment to confirm the ECP designation is appropriate and can be safely supported within hospital policy, unit operations, and available resources.</p>
	<p>Orientation and authorization</p> <p>Once approved, ECPs complete a brief orientation covering safety, confidentiality, and other important expectations, as well as completing all required forms including the ECP Commitment Agreement Form.</p> <p>After the orientation, the ECP receives authorization and an identification badge, granting access for approved visits and care activities.</p>