

Group Visit Options

For some programs, we can take a larger group by splitting the group in half, depending on space and staff availability.



MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL

PAUL S. RUSSELL, MD MUSEUM OF
MEDICAL HISTORY AND INNOVATION

Program	Group size	Age range	Length	Scheduling requirements	Walk-in or self-guided option?
Museum and Ether Dome tour	10 – 20	8 th grade through adult	Recommended: 1 ½ hours Can do 1 hour	Minimum two weeks in advance	<i>For groups under 10</i> – self-guided any time the Ether Dome is not in use for a meeting. There’s a brochure with information on the Ether Dome.
	A partly guided and partly self-guided visit to the museum and a guided visit to the Ether Dome. Can do just the museum or just the Ether Dome in 45 minutes, or 30 minutes if preferred. The Ether Dome is the historic operating theater where surgical anesthesia was first successfully, publicly demonstrated in 1846.				
MGH history walking tour	10 - 15	8 th grade through adult	Recommended – 1 hour Can add on more time in museum	Minimum two weeks in advance	<i>Groups under 10</i> can do a self-guided version with our Points of Interest map. <i>Individuals and groups under 5</i> can attend when we have public walking tours twice a month – see web.
	A guided walking tour of historic points of interest around MGH’s campus (under a mile total, with an opportunity to sit for part of it). Includes a guided visit to the Ether Dome and ends at the museum where visitors are welcome to stay and explore.				
Medical simulation	8 – 12	Older elementary through adult	Recommended – 1 hour May be able to do 1 ½ hours depending on scheduling needs	Minimum 4 weeks in advance; we will be able to confirm no later than 3 weeks after your request	<i>Individuals and groups under 5</i> can attend when we have public simulation events (monthly April – September) – see flyer or web.
	Program with the hospital’s medical simulation team and a medical mannequin, doing simulated hospital scenarios and introduction to differential diagnosis (tailored a bit to your group’s experience level).				
Ask Mass General: Health Careers Q&A	10 – 30	Middle school through college	1 hour	Minimum 3 weeks in advance; we will be able to confirm no later than 2 weeks after your request	N/A
	Conversation with two to three Mass General employees (they may be from clinical, research or healthcare-specific administrative roles) about their jobs and career paths, driven by the students’ questions.				



Guidelines and Policies for Group Visits

Thank you for your interest in bringing a group to the Russell Museum at MGH! Please read the following guidelines and policies and let us know if you have any questions. To make a reservation, please contact Tegan Kehoe at 617-726-4548 or tkehoe@mgh.harvard.edu. **If you need to contact us the day of your visit, call the museum's main line: 617-724-8009.** Please call if you are going to be more than 15 minutes late.

The Russell Museum is a refuge for patients and families at Massachusetts General Hospital, and we also welcome outside guests. Please consider carefully whether your group is prepared to behave appropriately and is equipped to handle the sensitive content in the museum.

Reservations: Though visits are free, groups of 10 or more people must make a reservation at least two weeks in advance for our standard tours, and further out for some others – see the chart of program options for more information. We recommend contacting us as early as possible.

Getting here: We strongly recommend using public transportation. We are just two blocks from the Charles/MGH stop on the Red Line. We are not able to validate for parking. Buses must unload on Cambridge Street; buses are prohibited from North Grove Street because it must be kept clear at all times for ambulances.

Language: The museum is designed for visitors who understand English on at least an 8th-grade level. If your group is not English-proficient, we require that you bring your own interpreter. English language learning classes are welcome; please let us know and we'll discuss your needs.

Age range and chaperones: We recommend group visits for grades 8 and up and adults. If you are interested in bringing a group of younger students, you can contact us to discuss. Please ask if you are interested in our all-ages indoor picture scavenger hunt or our open-ended indoor scavenger hunt for grades 8 and up. *We require one adult chaperone for every five K-12 students. Adults with the group are expected to take an active role in chaperoning their students.*

Sensitive material: The museum discusses topics including illness, pain and loss. Most exhibits do not contain graphic images; exceptions include some of the computer activities and a silent film. Members of your group are welcome to remove themselves from difficult discussions if needed.

Accessibility: The museum, its restrooms and the Ether Dome are fully wheelchair accessible. The majority of the exhibit displays are visual, with some audio. Please let us know at the time of your reservation if you wish to discuss your group's needs.

Photography: Visitors are welcome to take photographs in the museum and the Ether Dome for personal and school use. Photography and video recording is not permitted in other areas of the hospital. To take photographs or video for commercial use, contact MGH Public Affairs.

Food and Drinks: Food and drinks except water are prohibited in the museum galleries. There are a number of counter-service restaurants in the neighborhood if your group needs to eat. If your group needs to eat on the hospital's campus, let us know and we can discuss possibilities.

Cost: All of our visits are free. The museum does accept donations, which support our programming and exhibits.