



Guidance for P-12 Schools when a student or staff member has COVID-19 symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test

What to do when a student or staff member develops COVID-19 symptoms

If the student/staff is at school when symptoms begin, the student/staff should be evaluated by the nurse or sent home to isolate. Binax testing supplies will be provided to schools for testing of students and staff as determined by the school nurse.

One of the following three criteria must be met before the student/staff can return to school:

1. A note from the student/staff's medical care provider with an alternative diagnosis is provided OR
2. The result of a negative diagnostic COVID-19 test is provided OR
3. There have been at least ten days since the onset of COVID-19 symptoms.

What to do when a student tests positive for COVID-19

The student/staff should remain in isolation per public health order. All of the following three criteria must be met before the student/staff can return to school:

1. The student/staff should stay home for 5 days.
2. If the student/staff has no symptoms or symptoms are resolving after 5 days, they can return to school.
3. The student/staff has to continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
4. *If the student/staff has a fever, they should continue to stay home until their fever resolves.*

What to do with classmates or staff members in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case

1. Outside of the classroom, close contacts are individuals who are within 6 feet of an infected person, regardless of mask use for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
2. If universal masking is used in indoor K-12 classrooms, students who are exposed to an infected person are exempted from quarantine: a. Students who are at least 3 feet away from an infected person are not considered close contacts and do not need to quarantine as long as both the infected student and the exposed student are correctly and consistently wearing masks the entire time.
b. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.
c. Individuals who are fully vaccinated or who have had a COVID-19 infection within the last 90 days also do not need to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact.
3. **If the student/staff:** Has been boosted **OR** Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months **OR** Completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months a. Wear a mask around others for 10 days. b. Test on day 5, if possible. c. *If they develop symptoms, get a test and stay home.*
4. **If the student/staff:** Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are **not boosted** **OR** Completed the primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are **not boosted** **OR** Are unvaccinated: a. Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days. b. If they can't quarantine, they must wear a mask for 10 days. c. Test on day 5 if possible. d. *If they develop symptoms, get a test and stay home.*