

- Adhere to the following criteria for allowing a student or staff member to return to school: See CDC antigen algorithm for interpretation of antigen tests

Management of COVID cases and contacts:

- Exclusion from school for positive COVID cases and close contacts is **required** following the specific criteria and exemptions listed in the table below.

Exclusion Category	Scenario	Criteria to return to school
Diagnosis	Person has tested positive with an antigen test but does not have symptoms of COVID-19 and is not known to be a close contact to someone diagnosed with COVID-19.	<p>If the person has a repeat PCR/molecular test performed in a laboratory within 24 – 48 hours of their positive antigen test, and that PCR/molecular test is negative: the positive antigen test can be considered a false positive and the person can immediately return to school;</p> <p>OR</p> <p>If the person does not have a repeat PCR/molecular test, or has one within 24 – 48 hours and it is also positive, the person can return to school 5 days after the specimen collection date of the first positive test, as long as they did not develop symptoms. The person <u>must continue to mask</u> for an additional 5 days to minimize risk of infecting others.</p> <p>The person is not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return to school.</p>
Diagnosis	Person has tested positive with a PCR/molecular test but the person does not have symptoms.	<p>Person can return to school 5 days after the specimen collection date of their positive test as long as they did not develop symptoms. The person <u>must continue to mask</u> for an additional 5 days to minimize risk of infecting others.</p>
Symptoms	Person has symptoms of COVID-19 <u>and</u> has tested positive with an antigen test or PCR/molecular test	<p>Person can return to school when</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been at least 5 days after the first day of symptoms; AND • It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine); AND • Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving. <p>The person is not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return to school.</p> <p>The person <u>must continue to wear a mask</u> for 10 days after the first day of symptoms to minimize the risk of infecting others</p>
Symptoms	Person has symptoms of COVID-19 but has not been tested for COVID-19 nor has visited a health care provider. Therefore, the person who has symptoms is presumed positive for COVID-19 due to the presence of a clinically compatible illness in the absence of testing.	<p>Person can return to school when</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been at least 5 days after the first day of symptoms; AND • It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine); AND • Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving. <p>The person is not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return to school.</p> <p>The person <u>must continue to wear a mask</u> for 10 days after the first day of symptoms to minimize the risk of infecting others</p>

Symptoms	<p>Person has symptoms of COVID-19 but has received a negative test for COVID-19* or has visited a health care provider and received an alternate diagnosis that would explain the symptoms of COVID-19 *In a person with symptoms, a negative test is defined as either (1) a negative PCR/molecular test or (2) a negative antigen test if the person has a low likelihood of SARS-CoV-2 infection (e.g., the person has no known or suspected exposure to a person with COVID-19 within the last 14 days or is fully vaccinated). See CDC antigen algorithm for interpretation of antigen tests</p>	<p>Person can return to school when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine); AND • They have felt well for at least 24 hours. <p>Note: The health care provider is not required to detail the specifics of the alternate diagnosis.</p>
Exposure	<p>Person in a mask optional setting for whom an exception to exclusion does not apply and has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19</p>	<p>Person must be excluded from school for 5 days after exposure. Person may return to school after exclusion if asymptomatic but must continue to wear a mask for an additional 5 days, for a total of 10 days after exposure. The 5 days of exclusion begins on the day after the last known close contact with the COVID-19 positive individual. They should test on day 5, if possible.</p> <p>If <u>symptoms occur</u>, person should immediately isolate until a test either confirms COVID-19, or a negative result rules it out.</p>
Exposure (Exemption-vaccinated)	<p>Person has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 and is in one of the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are 18 years of age and have received their primary series AND booster, if eligible. • They are between the ages of 5-17 and have completed a primary series of COVID-19 vaccines. Boosters are not required to meet this exception for this age group. 	<p>Person does not need to be excluded from school if they have had no symptoms after being a close contact to someone with COVID-19</p> <p>The person must continue to wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure to minimize the risk of infecting others and should get tested on day 5, if possible.</p>
Exposure (Exemption Masked exposure)	<p>Person has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19, in which both individuals were wearing a mask the entire time</p>	<p>Person does not need to be excluded from school if masks were being worn appropriately and consistently by both the person with COVID-19 and the potential exposed person. This applies to exposures in classrooms, other in-school settings, extracurricular activities, including athletic activities and school transportation.</p>
Exposure (Exemption Infection in past 90 days)	<p>Person has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 and had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (tested positive using a viral test)</p>	<p>Person does not need to be excluded from school if they have had no symptoms after being a close contact to someone with COVID-19.</p> <p>The person must continue to wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure to minimize the risk of infecting others and should get tested on day 5, if possible.</p>
Exposure (Exemption Test to Stay in Mask Required Setting)	<p>Person in a mask required setting and has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 in which one or both individuals were not wearing a mask the entire time</p>	<p>Individuals in a mask-required school setting do NOT need to be excluded from school after a close contact, including unmasked exposures (e.g., during lunch or extracurricular activities), if they have no symptoms. Individuals with unmasked exposures in a mask required school setting should get tested on the day of notification of exposure and as close to day 5 after exposure as possible and must wear a mask in school settings. This exemption applies to in-school exposures as described above as well as non-household, out-of-school exposures. While the individual does not need to be excluded from the school setting, quarantine measures may still apply in non-school settings. If testing supply is limited, priority should be given to testing of students participating in athletics because of the higher risk of transmission in that setting.</p>

*For individuals exposed, day of exposure is considered day zero (0). For cases, day of symptom onset is day zero (0) or for individuals without symptoms, day of specimen collection is considered day zero (0).