



## **Students and Staff Persons With Symptoms of COVID-19 or Who Have Tested Positive for COVID-19**

### **Students and Staff Persons with Symptoms of COVID-19**

- Symptoms of COVID-19 in students and staff persons include the following. These symptoms should be new or different/worse than baseline for any existing chronic illness.

Any one of the following:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- New loss of smell
- New loss of taste

OR

Two or more of the following:

- Subjective fever (felt feverish) or measured temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
  - Chills or rigors (shaking or exaggerated shivering)
  - Muscle aches without another explanation
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  - Fatigue
  - Congestion or runny nose
- A student or staff person who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms as defined above should not go to school or any school activity. If at school or any school activity, they should be sent home. These individuals should be evaluated by a healthcare provider and tested for COVID-19 with a diagnostic test (nose/throat swab).

- If at school or any school activity, the student/staff person should wear a face covering and wait in an isolation area away from other staff and students until they leave the school building.
- Students and staff persons with symptoms (previously described) and who have had close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 are considered probable cases of COVID-19.

### **Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19**

- A person who has tested positive for COVID-19 is a confirmed case of COVID-19 if the positive test was a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test and a probable case of COVID-19 if the positive test was an antigen test. A person with symptoms (previously described) and who has had close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 (PCR test or antigen test) is considered a probable case of COVID-19.
- School administration must report any student or staff person with confirmed or probable COVID-19 to the Macomb County Health Department (see Return to School Toolkit, Appendix C, COVID-19 Report Form).
- School administration must notify school staff and student families on the school's website when a student or staff person with confirmed or probable COVID-19 has been identified in a school maintaining the confidentiality of the student or staff person as required by state and federal laws. School administration may also choose to provide written notification to school staff and student families.
- The Macomb County Health Department will work with the school to identify close contacts of the student or staff person with confirmed or probable COVID-19 (see Return to School Toolkit, Appendix D, Contact Tracing Form).
- A close contact is someone who has been within 6 feet of the student or staff person with confirmed or probable COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic persons, 2 days prior to test specimen collection). The determination of close contact should be made irrespective of the use of face coverings.
- Close contacts should be notified and instructed to remain quarantined at home for 10 days after the last contact with the student or staff person. Day zero (0) is the day of last contact and the quarantine period ends at midnight on day 10.
- The need to close a school for a period of time because of COVID-19 illness will be determined by the district superintendent on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Macomb County Health Department.

## **Close Contacts of Persons with Confirmed or Probable COVID-19**

- A student or staff person who is a close contact of a person with confirmed or probable COVID-19 should be sent home from school and remain quarantined at home for 10 days after the date of last exposure (for non-household contacts). The quarantine period for household contacts is 10 days after the date the person with confirmed or probable COVID-19 completes their isolation period if ongoing close household contact cannot be avoided. If ongoing close household contact can be avoided, the quarantine period is 10 days after the date close household contact ended.
- Students or staff persons who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 3 months or who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in the past 3 months do not need to quarantine. Fully vaccinated is defined as:
  - 2 weeks or more following receipt of the second dose using a 2-dose series or receipt of one dose using a single dose vaccine.
  - Are within 3 months of receipt of the last dose.
- Students or staff persons who are contacts of a contact do not need to quarantine for 10 days. Contacts of a contact are persons who have not had direct contact with a person with confirmed or probable COVID-19 but instead have had close contact with someone who has had direct contact with a person with confirmed or probable COVID-19.
- Students or staff persons who are close contacts must remain in quarantine for the full 10-day quarantine period even if they test negative for COVID-19.
- Students or staff persons who are close contacts and who test positive for COVID-19 must be reported to the Macomb County Health Department and managed as previously outlined.

## **Returning to School or Work**

- Students and staff persons with symptoms who test positive for COVID-19 or who are a probable case of COVID-19 may return to school/work if:
  - At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and
  - At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
  - Other symptoms have improved

- Students and staff persons who never had symptoms but who test positive for COVID-19 may return to school/work if at least 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 test (provided no symptoms appeared during the 10-day period).
- Day zero (0) is the day of symptom onset or the day the positive test specimen was collected (if there were no symptoms). The isolation period ends at midnight on the last day of the isolation period. The last day of isolation is usually day 10 but may be a later day if symptoms have not improved or fever has not resolved for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Students and staff persons with symptoms (previously described) who test negative for COVID-19 (with a PCR test) and who have had no close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 may return to work 24 hours after resolution of fever and improvement of symptoms.
- Students and staff persons with symptoms (previously described) who were not tested for COVID-19 and who have had no close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 may return to work 24 hours after resolution of fever and improvement of symptoms if they present a note from a healthcare provider that provides an alternative explanation for the symptoms. If a healthcare provider note is not available, the staff person may return to work if:
  - At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and
  - At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
  - Other symptoms have improved
- Students and staff persons who have traveled internationally should follow current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) quarantine and testing guidelines for return to school or work. To reduce the risk of further spread of variant virus strains in the United States, people who have been vaccinated should still follow all quarantine and testing guidelines related to international travel.