



COVID-19 School Exclusion Recommendations

Exclusion From and Return to School Recommendations			
<p>COVID-19 Symptoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Two of the following symptoms:</i> fever (measured or subjective), chills, fatigue, shaking or shivering, muscle aches, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea OR <i>One of the following symptoms:</i> cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell See COVID-19 Home Screening Tool, click here 	<p>Individuals should NOT come into school. You must contact school nurse when symptoms develop so contact tracing can begin. School nurse must be contacted before return to school. Testing for COVID-19 is recommended for symptoms click here for more information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If PCR/NAAT test result is negative OR doctor’s note with alternative <u>confirmed</u> diagnosis, return to school after 24 hours with no fever and improved symptoms If PCR/NAAT test result is negative and symptoms persist retesting and alternative diagnosis is recommended after 72 hours, return to school after 24 hours with no fever and off of fever reducing medications. If test result (antigen or PCR/NAAT) is positive or individual is unable/refuses to get tested, may return to school after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 24 hours with no fever and off of fever reducing medications and improvement in symptoms and after a full 10 days since symptoms first appeared 		
<p>Positive COVID-19 PCR/NAAT or Antigen (Point of Care) Test</p> <p><i>If you are tested for COVID-19 due to symptoms you need to quarantine until you get your test result. Click here for information on what to do while awaiting test results.</i></p>	<p><u>WITH SYMPTOMS</u></p> <p>May return to school after a full:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 hours with no fever and improvement in symptoms and 10 days since symptoms first appeared 	<p><u>WITHOUT SYMPTOMS</u></p> <p>May return to school after:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a full 10 days after specimen was collected <p>If symptoms develop during the 10 days, follow return to school guidance for positive PCR or Antigen test <u>WITH SYMPTOMS</u>.</p>	
<p>Close Contact to Positive*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within 6 ft for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more Household contact Exception - in the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time (Does not apply to teachers, staff, adults) <p>* All close contacts should be tested regardless of symptoms 3-5 days after exposure or if symptoms develop</p>	<p><u>WITH SYMPTOMS</u></p> <p>The CDC defines a close contact with symptoms as a Probable Positive and treat it the same as a confirmed positive COVID-19 test.</p> <p>Individuals can still be tested but a negative result without another confirmed alternative diagnosis (ex. STREP) will still be treated as a positive.</p> <p>May return to school after a full:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 hours with no fever and Improvement in symptoms and 10 days since symptoms first appeared 	<p><u>WITHOUT SYMPTOMS</u></p> <p><i>The most ideal quarantine remains a full 14 days after exposure.</i></p> <p>It is recommended that quarantine and symptom monitoring continue until after day 14. If symptoms develop during the 14 days, follow return to school guidance for Close Contact <u>with</u> symptoms.</p> <p>If 14 days presents a hardship quarantine can end after a full 10 days after exposure without testing or after a full 7 days with a negative PCR or antigen test (must be collected on day 5 or thereafter).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household contacts may require further investigation, by either DOH or school officials, to determine dates of quarantine. 	<p><u>COVID VACCINATION or COVID POSITIVE in Past 3 months</u></p> <p>People who have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been vaccinated against COVID-19 do NOT need to <u>quarantine</u> after an EXPOSURE to another person with COVID-19 if they meet ALL of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are fully vaccinated (i.e. ≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine) OR They are within 3 months following first day of symptoms AND They have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure. Vaccinated persons should have COVID testing 3-5 days after exposure, and have negative result but do not need to quarantine while awaiting results.
<p>Travel Guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>For more information on CDC general travel guidance, click here</i> <p><i>We ask that if your travel included high risk scenarios (masks not worn, social distancing not followed, or large gatherings with or without mitigation or taking public transportation including planes, especially international travel) that you follow CDC guidance for quarantine to decrease the risk brought into the school to help keep the schools open.</i></p>	<p><u>WITH SYMPTOMS</u></p> <p>SYMPTOMS need to be monitored for 14 days following travel regardless of vaccination status. If symptoms develop within 14 days of return to PA, immediately notify school officials Follow return to school guidance for COVID-19 Symptoms</p>	<p><u>WITHOUT SYMPTOMS</u></p> <p>All travelers should get testing (below) following domestic and especially <u>international</u> travel. Fully vaccinated individuals but do not need quarantine but testing is still recommended. Those <u>who</u> have recovered from infection within the past 3 months should not get testing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND quarantine or wear mask diligently for a full 7 days after travel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Even if you test negative, self-quarantine for the full 7 days. If your test is positive, follow Positive COVID-19 Without Symptoms If you don’t get tested and you are not fully vaccinated or recovered within 3 months, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel. <p><i>The most ideal quarantine is 14 days</i>, if you are able to please complete the full 14 days. Refer to frequently asked questions here for more information.</p>	

[2021 –PAHAN– 554–02-23-UPD: Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions for Patients with COVID-19](#)

[2021 –PAHAN– 559–3-16-UPD: Quarantine Recommendations for persons exposed to COVID-19](#)

[2021-PAHAN-583 - 7-30-UPD: Testing, Isolation, Quarantine by Vaccine Status](#)

Click [here](#) for K-12 Symptomatic Student Flow Chart from the CDC

For questions please contact Nicole Tomek, RN at the secondary campus 570-474-6782 x 309, cell:570-790-3203 or email: nicole.tomek@csdcomets.org

For symptoms or positive test result (individual or family member) please contact your building's school nurse or administrator as soon as possible

Fairview Elementary: Susan Ryan, RN at 570-474-5942 or susan.ryan@csdcomets.org

Rice Elementary: Carolyn Shemanski, RN at 570-868-3161 or carolyn.shemanski@csdcomets.org