

COVID-19 Frequently asked Questions

Question --My student has been exposed to someone who was positive for COVID-19 what do I do now?

Answer -- If your student was exposed to someone while they were experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID -19 and they had a positive COVID test, they must Quarantine at home for 10 days following their last exposure to the COVID positive individual. Please communicate this with your student's attendance line so that your student is excused for his/her absences.

Question --My student was with a person who later tested positive for COVID-19, do I need to quarantine him/her?

Answer --Possibly yes. If the person who tested positive for COVID within 2 days of being in contact with your student, the answer is yes. This is because a person is considered "infectious" for 2 days prior to a COVID positive test result and/or 2 days prior to symptom onset.

Question -- We share a home with someone who has tested positive for COVID and I am unable to avoid my student having contact with them, how long does my student have to quarantine?

Answer -- If a person in your home has tested positive for COVID and you are unable to keep the COVID positive individual isolated away from other family members, your student must quarantine for 10 full days after his/her last exposure to the COVID positive individual. This means, a person who has tested positive for COVID is considered infectious for 10 days. So, if you are exposed to the positive individual, until their 10th day of the COVID illness, your 10 day quarantine period starts on their last day of being considered infectious. This is because, after being exposed to a COVID positive person, it could take up to 14 days to develop COVID.

Question -- My student only had a headache on Monday and they were perfectly fine on Tuesday, which is why I sent them to school. Why am I being called to pick my student up from school and remain in isolation for the next 10 days or else have them tested for COVID?

Answer -- Anytime a student is called out for any one symptom (*Fever over 100.4, Cough, Shortness of Breath, fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea*) They will be excluded from school for 10 full days following the date their symptom(s) started unless a negative COVID test result is provided to the Health Office of your student's school. *The date of the Negative COVID test must be within the timeframe in which your student is currently experiencing symptoms, not from prior to the symptom onset date.*

Question --My student was exposed to someone who was COVID positive. My student was tested for COVID and the results were Negative. Is my student permitted to return to school?

Answer -- After an exposure to a COVID positive individual, your student must remain in quarantine for 10 full days from their last exposure, returning on their 11th day.* Getting a negative test will not allow them to return. This is because you have 14 days after an exposure that you could test positive for COVID. A negative test means you were negative only at the time the sample was collected. You have the remainder of the 14 day quarantine time that you could turn positive. Maricopa County Department of Health has decreased the quarantine time from 14 days down to 10 days.

There is a possibility to end quarantine after *7 full days* if specific criteria are met.

To end quarantine after 7 full days of quarantine, a COVID test must be done AFTER the 5th day and results must be **NEGATIVE**, permitting the person to return AFTER the 7th day as long as they are not experiencing any symptoms of COVID.

Please call the District Nurse at 480-664-5501 for more information. Timing of the test is VERY important and the other criteria MUST be met prior to allowing quarantine to end early.

Question -- My student has been tested for COVID and his/her results were texted to me. Can I show you the text message?

Answer -- If your student's Covid test results were texted to you, unfortunately this is not an official lab report. *You must obtain the copy of the lab report and it MUST include the student's name, date of specimen collection, type of test, and the results of the lab test. Do not send your student to school with a picture of the text message. Your student will be excluded from school until the official lab document is provided to the Health Office of your students school.*

Question -- My student was tested through Embry Women's Health and they texted me my student's COVID result. How do I get my student's official lab report?

Answer -- First go to 'Embry Women's health' website. Then in the top right hand corner of the screen, you will see 'PORTAL'. Click on 'PORTAL' and then a box will pop up and give you a choice to either 'LOG IN' or create an account, 'SIGN UP TODAY'. If you have an account, you will enter your login information and go to messages, and retrieve a copy of the lab report.

If you do not have an account, you will have to create one. This is very simple and only takes a few minutes. Once an account has been created, you are able to access your students lab report.

Question -- My student was exposed to someone who was positive for COVID, but they already had COVID. Do I still need to quarantine my student?

Answer -- If your student has tested positive for COVID, recovered, and completed their COVID isolation period within the last 3 months, they do not have to quarantine if they were a close contact to someone who tested positive for COVID. You must submit the lab report to your student's school health Office.

Question -- My student was exposed to someone who was positive for COVID, but they have received the COVID vaccine. Do I still need to quarantine my student?

Answer -- At this time (2/2/21) yes. Even if they have had the COVID vaccine, they must quarantine after being exposed to a COVID positive individual. This is because there is currently not enough data to confirm that our COVID-19 vaccines thoroughly prevent transmission of the virus.