

WHO NEEDS TO QUARANTINE?

For students, teachers, and staff in the school setting

Was there a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19?

- A positive COVID-19 test, even if later tests are negative, or
- Any major, or two or more minor symptoms (but has not had a negative test while symptomatic) or,
- Symptoms after a recent exposure to COVID-19 (but has not had a negative test while symptomatic)

YES

NO

Was it a higher risk exposure or is the individual a teacher/staff member?

Including not limited to: indoor sports, contact sports, band, and other activities with forced exhalation. Most bus exposures are high risk, but may be considered routine by the LPHA in some instances.

NO

YES

HIGHER RISK EXPOSURE

Was the exposed person a close contact? (For higher risk exposures)

- Within 6 ft for > 15 minutes if both ill and exposed person masked, or
- Within 12 ft for > 15 minutes if indoors and either ill or exposed person not masked, or
- Had any direct physical contact with ill person for any duration such as tackling, hugging, diapering, feeding, or sneezed/coughed on, or
- Lives in the same household as the ill person, or
- Sleeps in the same space as ill person, or
- Is identified as a close contact based on public health investigation

NO

YES

Was the exposed person immune? (For higher risk exposures)

- Is 5-17 years old and has completed primary COVID-19 vaccine series (2 weeks after second vaccine dose or third if immunocompromised), or
- Is 18+ and has received all recommended vaccine doses, including third doses and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people, or
- Viral test-confirmed infection in past 90 days

YES

NO

QUARANTINE RECOMMENDED

ROUTINE CLASSROOM EXPOSURES

For students only

Was the exposed student a close contact? (For routine classroom exposures)

- Within 6 ft for > 15 minutes if either ill and exposed person not masked, or
- Had direct physical contact with ill person for any duration such as tackling, hugging, diapering, feeding, or sneezed/coughed on, or
- Is identified as a close contact based on public health investigation

NO

YES

Was the exposed student immune, protected, or participating in screening testing? (For routine classroom exposures)

- Is 5-17 years old and has completed primary COVID-19 vaccine series (2 weeks after second vaccine dose or third if immunocompromised), or
- Is 18+ and has received all recommended vaccine doses, including third doses and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people, or
- Viral test-confirmed infection in past 90 days, or
- Protected via well-fitted mask wearing by the ill and exposed persons
- Participating in weekly screening testing and will continue to participate for at least 2 additional weeks

YES

NO

Criteria for Reduced Quarantine met and adopted by the LPHA? (For routine classroom exposures)

See table: [Criteria for Reduced Quarantine in Colorado's Practical Guide for Operationalizing CDC's School Guidance](#)

YES

NO

YES

REMAIN IN SCHOOL

NOTE: Local public health agencies (LPHAs) have statutory authority to require quarantine and determinations may differ from this tool; individuals should defer to the determinations of their LPHA. Issuance of exposure notification letters, 10-day symptom monitoring, and exposure-based testing at 3-5 days are recommended even when quarantine is not required.



Updated on January 7, 2022.