



Responding to Cases of COVID-19 Among Students, Teachers and Staff

Possible COVID-19 Cases in Students

- Symptoms of possible COVID-19 in students include the following. These symptoms should be new or different/worse than baseline for any existing chronic illness. A student with any of these symptoms should also be questioned about a history of close contact/potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

Symptoms

- Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline).
- Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with fever

Close Contact/Potential Exposure

In the past 14 days:

- Had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19; OR
 - Traveled to or lives in an area with a high level of community transmission of COVID-19.
- Students who exhibit any of the above symptoms but who have no close contact/potential exposure history should not go to school or any school activity. If at school or any school activity, they should be sent home. These students may return to school 24 hours after resolution of fever (if there was a fever) and improvement of symptoms.
 - Students who exhibit any of the above symptoms and who have a close contact/potential exposure history should not go to school or any school activity. If at school or any school activity, they should be sent home. These students 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 should be required to wear a face covering and wait in an isolation area away from teachers, staff and other students until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility.
- School administration should notify the Macomb County Health Department when a probable case of COVID-19 in a student has been identified in the school. A probable case of COVID-19 in a student is defined as a student with any of the above symptoms and a close contact/potential exposure history. The Macomb County Health Department will work with the school to determine if further action is necessary.

Possible COVID-19 Cases in Teachers or Staff Persons

- Symptoms of possible COVID-19 in teachers 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:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

OR

Two or more of the following:

- Muscle aches without another explanation
 - Chills
 - Sore throat
 - Headache
 - Vomiting or diarrhea
 - New loss of taste or smell
- Any teacher or staff person who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms as defined above or has a measured temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher 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 individual should wear a face covering and wait in an isolation area away from teachers, staff and students until they leave the school building or are transported to a healthcare facility.
- School administration should notify the Macomb County Health Department when a possible case of COVID-19 has been identified in a teacher or staff person. The Macomb County Health Department will work with the school to determine if further action is necessary.

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases

- School administration should notify the Macomb County Health Department of any confirmed case of COVID-19 in a student, teacher or staff person.
- School administration should notify all staff and student families of any confirmed case of COVID-19 in a school maintaining the confidentiality of the case as required by state and federal laws. The Macomb County Health Department will provide a letter that may be used for this notification.
- School administration should work with the Macomb County Health Department to identify close contacts of the confirmed case of COVID-19.
- For elementary schools and other settings where a stable classroom cohort has been maintained, the close contacts may be all students and staff in the classroom.
- For middle schools/high schools and any setting where a stable classroom cohort has not been maintained, a close contact is someone who has been within 6 feet of the case for at least 15 minutes regardless of the use of a face covering.
- Close contacts should be notified and instructed to remain quarantined at home for 14 days after the last contact with the confirmed case. The Macomb County Health Department will provide a letter that may be used for this notification.
- 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 to a Confirmed COVID-19 Case

- Any student, teacher or staff person who is a close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case (household or non-household) should be immediately sent home from school and remain quarantined at home for 14 days after the date of last exposure to the confirmed COVID-19 case (for non-household contact) or 14 days after the date the confirmed COVID-19 case completes their isolation period (for household contact).

- No actions are necessary for students, teachers or staff persons who do not have symptoms and who are contacts of a contact (persons who have not had direct contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 but instead have had close contact with someone who has had direct contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19).
- Students, teachers or staff persons must remain in quarantine for the full 14-day quarantine period even if they test negative for COVID-19.
- Students, teachers or staff persons who test positive for COVID-19 should be reported to the Macomb County Health Department and managed as a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Returning to School/Work

- Students, teachers and staff persons with symptoms who test positive for 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, teachers 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).
- Students, teachers and staff persons with symptoms (previously described) who test negative for COVID-19 may return to school/work 24 hours after resolution of fever (if there was a fever) and improvement of symptoms. The student, teacher or staff person should provide documentation of the negative COVID-19 test result.
- Students, teachers and staff persons with symptoms (previously described) who are not tested for COVID-19 may return to school/work 24 hours after resolution of fever (if there was a 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 student, teacher or staff person 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, teachers and staff persons who are close contacts to a confirmed case of COVID-19 and who test positive may return to school/work as outlined above.
- Students, teachers and staff persons who are close contacts to a confirmed case of COVID-19 and who test negative (or who are not tested) may return to school/work 14 days after the last exposure (for non-household contact) or 14 days after the confirmed case has completed their isolation period (for household contacts).