



COVID-19

HAWAI`I STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

INTERIM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE GUIDANCE FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

REDUCED 5-DAY ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

This updated guidance is being released in anticipation of the Governor's emergency proclamation being lifted on March 25th, 2022. The effective date of this guidance is March 26th, 2022.

Summary of Guidance Changes for K-12 Schools, updates as of March 22, 2022

- Individual case investigation, contact identification, and quarantine of in-school exposures is no longer recommended for K-12 schools when universal indoor masking is implemented.
- Schools that implement optional indoor masking policies after March 25th, 2022 should continue individual case investigation, contact identification, and quarantine of all COVID-19 exposures.

Schools are strongly recommended to implement universal indoor masking to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in schools. When [community levels are high](#), mask usage should be implemented in indoor settings and in outdoor settings where crowding or sustained close contact with others may occur, regardless of vaccination status. Schools should continue to implement layered mitigation strategies (e.g., physical distancing of at least 3 feet, if possible, or to the greatest extent possible; maximizing ventilation; cohorting, etc.) to minimize risk whenever individuals are not wearing masks in school settings (e.g., naptime, eating or drinking, when universal indoor mask usage is not implemented, etc.).

ISOLATION

Table 1. Isolation Protocol for all K-12 Settings.

Isolation	Actions
For students and staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who have COVID-19 symptoms, <u>regardless of vaccination status</u> should isolate for 5 days.	Students and staff can return to school when all the following conditions are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or 5 days after the date test was collected, if asymptomatic and• 24 hours with no fever without use of fever-reducing medications; and• Symptoms have improved; also• Must wear a well-fitting mask around others indoors for 10 days. <p>*Individuals unable or unwilling to wear a mask and have tested positive should remain in isolation for 10 days, regardless of vaccination status.</p>

¹ Quarantine recommendations for people aged 5-17 will be updated upon further guidance from CDC.

QUARANTINE (UNIVERSAL INDOOR MASKING POLICY)

The quarantine of in-school exposures is no longer recommended for K-12 schools when universal indoor masking is implemented. Instead, schools should provide group notification if there was 15 minutes or more of exposure to a person with COVID-19 in a given K-12 setting (e.g., class, sports team, lunchroom, etc.). Notification of group members with potential exposure should be timely, ideally as soon as possible, and should occur within 5 days of their last known exposure to someone with COVID-19. See [Comprehensive K-12 School Guidance](#) for more information and additional guidance on what to do if a school is experiencing a suspected cluster. Active clusters may necessitate a temporary return to targeted case investigation, close contact identification, and quarantine of in-school exposures to prevent ongoing transmission.

Quarantine is **not required** for in-school exposures when universal indoor masking is implemented and individuals may remain in school.

- Get tested, if possible, at least 5 days after potential exposure to a person with COVID-19, even if not having symptoms.
- If symptoms develop, immediately **self-isolate** and **get tested**.

Table 2. Quarantine protocol for individuals who are a <u>household or other non-school related close contact</u> of a person who has COVID-19.	
Quarantine for K-12 Schools (Universal Indoor Masking Policy)	Actions
<p><u>Who needs to quarantine?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are ages 18 and older and completed the primary series of recommended vaccine, but have not received a recommended booster shot when eligible. • People who are not vaccinated or have not completed a primary vaccine series. 	<p>Individuals should stay home for 5 days after last contact with the person with COVID-19*, AND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get tested, if possible, at least 5 days after last contact with the person with COVID-19, even if not having symptoms. • If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and get tested. • Schools may consider requiring a negative test on or after day 5 prior to return to school as an additional mitigation measure to reduce transmission of COVID-19 on school campuses. Before implementing a required test to return policy, factors impacting feasibility of required testing should be weighed, including equitable access to and availability of testing and schools' capacity to monitor and track results. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ COVID-19 tests used for clearance to return to school should be approved under an EUA by the FDA. • Must wear a well-fitting mask around others indoors for 10 days.* <p>*Individuals who have ongoing close contact with a person with COVID-19 because they live in the same</p>

¹ Quarantine recommendations for people aged 5-17 will be updated upon further guidance from CDC.

	house must stay home in quarantine for 5 days after the person with COVID-19 is released from isolation.
<p>Who does NOT need to quarantine?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are ages 18 and older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people. • People who are ages 5–17 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.¹ • People who have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 90 days 	<p>Individuals should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get tested, if possible, at least 5 days after last contact with the person with COVID-19, even if not having symptoms. • If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and get tested; and • Must wear a well-fitting mask around others indoors for 10 days.*
<p>Additional Considerations for Participation in High Risk Extracurriculars: Participation in extracurricular activities that are high-risk for disease transmission and do not allow for mask usage and physically distancing to the extent possible (e.g., indoor or close-contact sports, singing, playing wind instruments, etc.).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals who have tested positive, regardless of vaccination status, should remain out of high-risk extracurricular activities until 10-days have passed since symptom onset or test collection date, even if asymptomatic. • Individuals who are a household or other non-school related close contact of a person with COVID-19 and are not up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccines and boosters for their age group should remain out of high-risk extracurricular activities until 10-days after their last exposure.

*If individuals are unable or unwilling to wear a mask and have household or non-school related exposure to a person with COVID-19 they should remain in quarantine for 10 days, regardless of vaccination status.

QUARANTINE (OPTIONAL INDOOR MASKING POLICY)

Schools that implement optional masking policies for students and staff should continue case investigation, close contact identification and notification, and quarantine of in-school exposures due to the higher risk of transmission during unmasked exposures. See [Comprehensive School Guidance](#) for additional considerations.

Table 3. Quarantine protocol for individuals who were a close contact of a person who has COVID-19. <u>Only necessary when schools implement optional indoor masking policies.</u>	
Quarantine (Optional Indoor Masking Policy)	Actions
<p>Who needs to quarantine?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are ages 18 and older and completed the primary series of recommended vaccine, but have not received a recommended booster shot when eligible. • People who are not vaccinated or have not completed a primary vaccine series. 	<p>Individuals should stay home for 5 days after last contact with the person with COVID-19*, AND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get tested, if possible, at least 5 days after last contact with the person with COVID-19, even if not having symptoms.

¹ Quarantine recommendations for people aged 5-17 will be updated upon further guidance from CDC.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and get tested. • Schools may consider requiring a negative test on or after day 5 prior to return to school as an additional mitigation measure to reduce transmission of COVID-19 on school campuses. Before implementing a required test to return policy, factors impacting feasibility of required testing should be weighed, including equitable access to and availability of testing and schools' capacity to monitor and track results. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ COVID-19 tests used for clearance to return to school should be approved under an EUA by the FDA. • Must wear a well-fitting mask around others indoors for 10 days.* <p>*Individuals who have ongoing close contact with a person with COVID-19 because they live in the same house must stay home in quarantine for 5 days after the person with COVID-19 is released from isolation.</p>
<p><u>Who does NOT need to quarantine?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are ages 18 and older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people. • People who are ages 5–17 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.¹ • People who have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 90 days 	<p>Individuals should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get tested, if possible, at least 5 days after last contact with the person with COVID-19, even if not having symptoms. • If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and get tested; and • Must wear a well-fitting mask around others indoors for 10 days.*
<p><u>Additional Considerations for Participation in High Risk Extracurriculars:</u> Participation in extracurricular activities that are high-risk for disease transmission and do not allow for mask usage and physically distancing to the extent possible (e.g., indoor or close-contact sports, singing, playing wind instruments, etc.).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals who have tested positive, regardless of vaccination status, should remain out of high-risk extracurricular activities until 10-days have passed since symptom onset or test collection date, even if asymptomatic. • Individuals who are close contact of a person with COVID-19 and are not up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccines and boosters for their age group should remain out of high-risk extracurricular activities until 10-days after their last exposure.

* If individuals are unable or unwilling to wear a mask and are a close contact to a person with COVID-19, they should remain in quarantine for 10 days, regardless of vaccination status.

¹ Quarantine recommendations for people aged 5-17 will be updated upon further guidance from CDC.

Contacts of Close Contacts (regardless of mask use policy): People who were **not** in close contact with the person with COVID-19 infection.

- Do **not** have to quarantine.
- Do **not** have to get tested.

APPENDIX:

Close Contacts:

- A **close contact** is defined as within **6 feet** of a person with COVID-19 infection for a combined total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (regardless of mask use).

Close Contacts in a School Setting:

- An **adult close contact** is defined as within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 infection for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (regardless of mask use).
- A **student close contact in a K-12 indoor classroom** setting or an outdoor setting with sustained close contact (i.e., holding class outdoors with educator supervision), where everyone is wearing a mask correctly and consistently, is defined as within **3 feet** of a person with COVID-19 infection for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- In **cafeterias or indoor rooms** (e.g., breakroom, classroom) where people were eating and drinking or **not** wearing masks correctly and consistently, a close contact is any adult or student who was within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 infection for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

Primary Series Completion Definition and Booster Eligibilities:

People are considered to have completed their primary series 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna, or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.

Ages 18 and older are eligible for a booster 5 months after receiving the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech, 5 months after receiving the second dose of Moderna, or 2 months after receiving the first dose of J&J.

Ages 12–17 are eligible for a Pfizer-BioNTech booster 5 months after receiving the second dose of Pfizer.

Note: The Department of Health does not provide isolation "clearance" letters. Schools should **not** require a clinician's note to return to school if the person has completed 5 days of **isolation** and meets the conditions above. Schools do not need to require a negative COVID-19 test if the person has completed 5 days of isolation and meets the conditions above.

¹ Quarantine recommendations for people aged 5-17 will be updated upon further guidance from CDC.