

# Department of Health K–12 Schools Requirements

## Snapshot of High-level Changes in the January 7, 2022 Update

Prevention Measure	October 27, 2021 DOH Requirements	January 7, 2022 DOH Requirements
<p><b>Test to Stay:</b></p> <p>A protocol in which a student or staff member completes post-exposure testing at regular intervals in order to complete a modified quarantine, subject to local health jurisdiction Test to Stay Protocol approval.</p>	<p>Eligibility limited to students whose exposure occurred at school.</p> <p>Participation in extracurricular activities and child care was not allowed.</p>	<p>Test to Stay is now inclusive of all <b>staff and students, regardless of where exposure occurred.</b></p>
<p><b>Isolation:</b></p> <p>When someone who has COVID-19 symptoms, or has tested positive, stays home and away from others (including household members) to avoid spreading their illness.</p>	<p>Isolation at home was required to be 10 days, symptoms resolving, no fever in past 24 hours (no medication) based on DOH requirements and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations.</p>	<p>Isolation <b>reduced to 5 days at home</b> since symptom onset or positive test. Symptoms must be absent or resolving, no fever in the past 24 hours (no medication). Monitor and wear well-fitting mask for next 5 days (days 6–10).</p>
<p><b>Quarantine:</b></p> <p>When someone who has been exposed to COVID-19 stays home and away from others for the recommended period of time in case they were infected and are contagious. Quarantine becomes isolation if the person later tests positive for COVID-19 or develops symptoms.</p>	<p>No quarantine needed if they are asymptomatic and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully vaccinated, or</li> <li>Had COVID in the past 90 days and recovered.</li> </ul> <p>Test to Stay was encouraged.</p> <p>If not using Test to Stay, quarantine was 7 days with a negative test at day 5, or 10 days without a test.</p>	<p>No quarantine needed if they are asymptomatic and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ages 18+ up to date with vaccines (primary series <i>and</i> boosters);</b></li> <li><b>Ages 5–17 completed primary series of vaccines;</b> or</li> <li>Had confirmed COVID-19 in the last 90 days and recovered.</li> </ul> <p>Test to Stay is available and encouraged.</p> <p>If not using Test to Stay, quarantine ends <b>after 5 full days</b> after the last close contact if no symptoms have developed <b>and after receiving a negative test</b> result from a test taken no sooner than day 5, or 10 days without a test.</p>
<p><b>Contact Tracing:</b></p> <p>The process of identifying people who have been exposed to COVID-19 and notifying these close contacts about their exposure, while protecting confidentiality, in order to provide public health guidance.</p>	<p>Priority areas were classrooms, transportation services, extracurricular activities, and lunchrooms.</p>	<p><b>Contact tracing is further prioritized</b> to efforts on transportation services, high-risk extracurricular activities, and indoor spaces where masking is limited or not consistent.</p>



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Current guidance documents: [K-12 COVID-19 Requirements for Summer 2021 and the 2021-2022 School Year](#); and [Supplemental Considerations to Mitigate COVID-19 Transmission in K-12 Schools](#).