



Public Health Recommendations for the Screening, Exclusion, and Re-Admittance of Symptomatic Students and Staff for COVID-19 in Schools

The following symptom screening criteria for ill students and staff is based on the most current research (and will change with new findings). Because people with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness, the following criteria has been developed to assist schools in identifying presumptive positive COVID-19 cases.

SCREENING TEST:
 Individuals with two of the following: fever (measured or reported), chills & shivering, muscle aches, headache, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
OR
 At least one of the following: new cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste and smell



Students and staff who **screen** positive should be immediately isolated in a designated area and sent home as soon as possible. Require the symptomatic person to wear a cloth or surgical mask while waiting, if tolerable. Staff attending to the individual should also be masked.

Re-Admittance to School

Symptomatic staff/student who tests positive:

Exclude until:
 At least 10* days have passed from symptom onset
AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication
AND symptoms have improved
(Household members return 11 days from last exposure, but need to always wear a mask through 14 days)

Symptomatic staff/student not tested:

Exclude until:
 At least 10* days have passed from symptom onset
AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication
AND symptoms have improved
(Household members return 11 days from last exposure, but need to always wear a mask through 14 days)
OR Exclude until:
 A provider establishes an alternative diagnosis confirmed by doctor's note **AND** school requirements for readmission are met.
(Household members return upon receipt of sick individual's doctor's note).

Symptomatic staff/student who tests negative:

Exclude until fever free for 24 hours (or meets the school's requirements for readmission)
AND improved symptoms
AND notification of official negative test results
(Household members return upon receipt of negative lab)

Staff/student who tests positive without symptoms:

Exclude for 10 days from date of test. Positive can return if no symptoms have developed.
(Household members return 10 days from last exposure, but need to always wear a mask through 14 days)

Any questions regarding testing out of quarantine, refer to the "NALHD-Quarantine-Timeline" pamphlet.