

Protocol for Schools Assisting Health Department in Close Contact Identification for COVID-19 Cases among Students

Health Department and School will work together to determine which students should be quarantined and excluded from school.

School notified by family or Health Department about student with positive test for novel coronavirus

Positive student AND household contacts immediately excluded from school

Positive students should isolate and not come to school until no fever for ≥ 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication) AND symptoms improving AND approved by primary care provider or health department to return to school (typically 10 days from start of symptoms).

Identify possible contacts of positive case:
Check with your local jurisdiction for close contact definition. CDC definition of a close contact includes those who are exposed to a positive student:

- During the student's infectious period (48 hours before and for 10 days after symptoms developed)
- Within 6 feet
- Contact >15 minutes
- A well-fitting mask worn by the case and the contact may exclude the exposed student from being considered a close contact in the school environment

Collect the following information for your contact tracing investigation of possible contacts of positive case (You may be required to provide this to your local health department as well) :

- Student/staff name and date of birth
- For students, parent(s) name and phone number
- Home address
- COVID-19 vaccination status
- Face covering usage

Positive student information including class name(s), date of last attendance, and information as above.

- Students who are **fully vaccinated** typically will NOT need to quarantine but should monitor for symptoms and be tested if symptoms develop.
- Students who have had a documented **positive test** within 90 days of the exposure will also not be required to quarantine.
- **Modified quarantine** may be possible for some students if certain criteria are met including the use of well-fitted face coverings by the case and the contact.
- Students who are determined to be **close contacts** will be quarantined and should not come to school until at least 10 days after last potential exposure AND approved by the local Health Department for return to school. They should continue to monitor for symptoms for at least 14 days after last exposure.

Health Department	Phone
St. Louis County case reporting (cdcs.doh@stlouisco.com)	314-615-2660
St. Louis County provider question (provider-COVID@stlouisco.com)	
St. Louis County school nurse liaison (School-COVID@stlouisco.com)	
St. Louis City	314-657-1499
St. Louis City school reporting (casereporting@stlouis-mo.gov)	314-657-1453
St. Charles County	636-949-1899
Missouri Department of Health	877-435-8411
Illinois Department of Health	800-889-3931