

# Return to Learn: guidance following a positive COVID-19 Symptom Screen (R2)



This decision tool is **NOT** intended for cases or close contacts of COVID-19.

A confirmed COVID-19 case or close contact should follow public health isolation or quarantine instructions for return to school/work. *No test result can end an individual's isolation or quarantine period early.*

**\*All students/staff with symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested as soon as possible.**

To request assistance or provide feedback:  
<https://tinyurl.com/COP12Feedback>



For use in communities in  
**Safer At Home: Level 1 or 2**

\*Start

Does individual have new **loss of taste or smell** of any duration?

No Yes

Have symptoms resolved within 24 hours of symptom onset?

Yes No

Did the person have **Minor symptoms only** AND symptoms resolved in 48 hours AND can person wear a mask safely?

Yes No

Was PCR testing done?<sup>†</sup>

Yes No/Pending

Test result

Negative Positive

Can person wear a mask safely?

Yes No

Follow regular **Return to School** illness policies if all symptoms have stayed resolved for 24 hours

Follow **Home Isolation** for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds

<sup>†</sup> POC or Rapid Testing: Positive POC or rapid test results are treated the same as positive PCR results and should not be followed by confirmatory RT-PCR. Negative POC or rapid tests must be confirmed with a RT-PCR before returning to school.

- Critical Symptom**
- Loss of taste or smell

- Major Symptoms**
- Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4° F or greater
  - New or worsening cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

- Minor Symptoms**
- Sore throat
  - Runny nose or congestion
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - Fatigue
  - Nausea, vomiting
  - Diarrhea