# COVID-19 School Exclusion Recommendations

## Exclusion From and Return to School Recommendations

**COVID-19 Symptoms**
- Two of the following symptoms: fever (measured or subjective), chills, fatigue, myalgia, headache, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea OR
- One of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell

**Individual should be tested for COVID-19.**
- If test result is negative OR doctor’s note with differential diagnosis, return to school after 24 hours afebrile and improved respiratory symptoms
- If test result is positive or individual is unable/refuses to get tested, may return to school after:
  - 24 hours with no fever and
  - Improvement in symptoms and
  - 10 days since symptoms first appeared

### Positive COVID-19 PCR or Antigen (Point of Care) Test

**WITH SYMPTOMS**
May return to school after:
- 24 hours with no fever and
- Improvement in symptoms and
- 10 days since symptoms first appeared

**WITHOUT SYMPTOMS**
May return to school after:
- 10 days after specimen was collected
*If symptoms develop during the 10 days, follow return to school guidance for positive PCR or Antigen test with symptoms*

**Close Contact to Positive***
- Within 6ft for 15 minutes or more
- Household contact
*If testing resources are sufficient, close contacts should be tested regardless of symptoms*

**WITH SYMPTOMS**
Individual should be tested for COVID-19
May return to school after:
- 24 hours with no fever and
- Improvement in symptoms and
- 10 days since symptoms first appeared

**WITHOUT SYMPTOMS**
Quarantine can end 10 days after exposure without testing or after 7 days with a negative PCR or antigen test (must be collected on day 5 or thereafter)
- Household contacts may require further investigation, by either OPH or school officials, to determine dates of quarantine
  **The most protective recommended quarantine remains 14 days post exposure.**
  It is recommended that symptom monitoring continue until day 14. If symptoms develop during the 14 days, follow return to school guidance for Close Contact with symptoms

**PA Travel Mandate**
- Critical workers are encouraged to wear both a face shield and mask and social distance, if unable to quarantine

This does NOT apply to travelers under age 11 or people who commute to and from another state for work or medical exemption. For more information, click here

**WITH SYMPTOMS**
If symptoms develop during the 14 day return to PA, follow return to school guidance for COVID-19 symptoms

**WITHOUT SYMPTOMS**
A negative COVID-19 test must be completed within 72 hours prior to entering PA
- If an individual is unable to get a test or chooses not to get a test, they must quarantine for 10 days upon arrival in PA
- If a traveler chooses to get tested upon entering PA, or is waiting for test results, the traveler must quarantine for 10 days, or until receipt of a negative test result, whichever comes first.

It is recommended that symptom monitoring continue until day 14

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**Designated Contact Information for Schools**
Phone: 610-278-6211
Email: MCSchoolsCOVID19@montcopa.org

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*Updated December 18, 2020

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2020 – PAHAN – 538 – 12-4-ALT: Updated Quarantine Recommendations for Persons Exposed to COVID-19
**PA DOH COVID 19 Information for Travelers**

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