COVID-19 Isolation & Quarantine for Workers

Revised 1/20/2022

This guide covers when and for how long workers must stay home if they test positive for COVID-19 or are exposed to someone who has COVID-19. There are additional guidelines for health care workers and workplaces covered by the Aerosol Transmissible Diseases standard. When testing to return to work, antigen tests are preferred but tests must be processed by a laboratory, or observed or administered by a medical professional or worker's employer. Report cases at bit.ly/3KFofiG. For more information, visit cchealth.org/coronavirus.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCENARIO</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>RETURN TO WORK</th>
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| Worker tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status      | Isolate         | • Isolate at home for at least 5 days  
• Can return to work after day 5 if they do not have symptoms or are feeling better **AND** test negative on day 5 or later  
• If not tested, but they do not have symptoms or are feeling better, they can return to work after day 10  
• Must wear a face covering around others for 10 days |
| Worker is unvaccinated and exposed to someone with COVID-19              | Quarantine      | • Quarantine at home for at least 5 days after the close contact **AND** test on day 5  
• Can return to work after day 5 if they do not have symptoms **AND** test negative on day 5 or later  
• If not tested and don’t have symptoms, they can return to work after day 10  
• If they develop symptoms, they must isolate and get tested  
• Must wear a face covering around others for 10 days |
| Worker is booster-eligible but not boosted and exposed to someone with COVID-19 | No Quarantine  | • Can continue coming to work if they do not have symptoms **AND** test negative 3-5 days after exposure  
• If they test positive or develop symptoms, they must stay home and follow isolation instructions above  
• Must wear a face covering around others for 10 days |
| Worker is boosted, or fully vaccinated but not yet eligible for a booster, and exposed to someone with COVID-19 | No Quarantine  | • Can continue coming to work if they do not have symptoms **AND** test negative on day 5 after exposure  
• If they test positive or develop symptoms, they must stay home and follow isolation instructions above  
• Must wear a face covering around others for 10 days |