

Tawas Area Schools

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Quarantine Guidance - Staff

Who must quarantine?

Staff who came into close contact (unmasked individuals within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone with COVID-19 and are not vaccinated must quarantine (required per PA 339 of 2020) for at least 5 days (day 0 through day 5) after their last close contact with a person who has COVID-19 (date of exposure is day 0)

Who does NOT need to quarantine?

Staff who came into close contact with someone with COVID-19 and are in one of the following groups **do not need** to quarantine:

- Staff who are ages 18 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses.
- Staff who had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (tested positive using a test).

Isolation Guidance - Staff

Who needs to isolate?

Staff who have **confirmed or suspected COVID-19** or are showing symptoms of COVID-19 need to isolate regardless of vaccination status. More specifically,

- People who have a positive test for COVID-19, regardless of whether or not they have symptoms.
- People with symptoms of COVID-19, including people who are awaiting test results or have not been tested. People with symptoms should isolate even if they do not know if they have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19.

How long should a staff member with COVID-19 isolate?

All people with COVID-19 must undergo isolation for at least 5 full days. Day 0 is the day symptoms began or the day of the positive test (for people with no symptoms).

When can a staff member be around others (end isolation) after they are diagnosed with COVID-19?

Staff who test positive for COVID-19 and **never develop symptoms** should isolate for at least 5 days. Day 0 is the day of the positive test (based on the date of testing) and day 1 is the first full day after the specimen was collected for the positive test.

- If the staff member continues to have **no symptoms**, they can end isolation after at least 5 days provided the staff member wears a mask as noted below.
- The staff member must continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at school and social distance until day 10 (day 6 through day 10). If they are unable to wear a mask when around others, they should continue to isolate for 10 days.
- If they develop symptoms after testing positive, the 5-day isolation period will start over. Day 0 is the first day of symptoms. Follow the recommendations above for ending isolation for people who had COVID-19 and had symptoms.

Staff who have COVID-19 and **have or had symptoms** should isolate for at least 5 days. To calculate the 5-day isolation period, day 0 is the first day of symptoms. Day 1 is the first full day after their symptoms developed.

- They can end isolation after 5 full days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved (*loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation*).
- They must continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at school for 5 additional days (day 6 through day 10) after the end of their 5-day isolation period. If they are unable to wear a mask when around others, they should continue to isolate for 10 days.
- If they continue to have fever or other symptoms have not improved after 5 days of isolation, they should wait to end isolation until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and their other symptoms have improved. They should continue to wear a well-fitting mask and contact their healthcare provider with questions.

Additional Guidance:

- CDC continues to recommend indoor masking in K-12 schools for all individuals ages 2 years and older, including students, teachers, staff, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status.