

STAFF-SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

If at school:

- Notify your supervisor for coverage and when safe to do so, leave the premises
- Notify school nurse that you are having symptoms
- Option for BINAX NOW Antigen testing
- Call your PCP/HCP for further evaluation and testing information
- Request to get a ***PCR/Molecular** test. Follow protocol for calling in sick for subsequent days until cleared by school nurse in conjunction with BOH

If at home:

- Stay home
- Follow protocol for calling in sick and notify your supervisor that you will be out
- Notify school nurse that you are having symptoms
- Call your PCP/HCP for further evaluation and testing information

Testing:

- Contact your PCP/Health Care Provider for testing instructions
- Request ***PCR/Molecular** Testing
- Some testing sites require a referral, appointment and/or prescreening
- To find testing testing sites you can use:
 - [Testing](#) sites in MA

***We will only accept results from a polymerase chain reaction (PCR)/Molecular test. Results from any other type of test will not be accepted, so please inform your healthcare provider of this requirement.**

Until the test results are back:

- Stay at home and use a separate bedroom/bathroom if possible
- Stay at least 6 feet away from other people in your house
- If you live with others, wear a mask or face covering in your home
- Do not leave your house to go to school, work, or errands
- Do not have any visitors to your house at this time
- Do not have any contact with high risk individuals (such as grandparents, people with underlying health conditions)
- Wash your hands frequently with soap & water for at least 20 seconds
- Do not share eating or drinking utensils with anyone
- Do not take public transportation, taxis, or ride-shares if you have a doctor's appointment or are going to be tested
- Monitor for symptoms of COVID-19:
 - Symptoms include:** *fever (100°F or higher), dry cough and shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea*
 - Call 911 immediately if you have:** *trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in chest, new confusion, inability to wake, bluish lips or face*

It is important you contact the school nurse to inform them of your testing results.

Return to School Protocol After Having Illness Symptoms:

****You may not return to school until all COVID test results are known****

If you test **POSITIVE**:

- Work with your school nurse and local Board of Health to determine your close contacts
- Inform school nurse and building supervisor with COVID test result
- Stay home at least **10 days** from onset of symptoms, **AND** at least **24 hours** have passed with no fever (without fever-reducing medications such as Tylenol & Motrin) **AND** improvement of other symptoms
- Do not return to work until authorized to do so by your school nurse who will be working in conjunction with the BOH

If you test **NEGATIVE**:

- You may return to school after being symptom free for 24 hours and
- Provide test results to school nurse and wait for confirmation from school nurse to return to school

If your healthcare provider determines a COVID-19 Test is **not indicated**:

- You may return to school after being symptom free for 24 hours **and**
- You provide the school nurse with a note from your healthcare provider with an **alternative diagnosis exclusive of a diagnosis of “COVID/Viral syndrome”**. The note does not need to disclose what the specific alternative diagnosis is. **Your physician will need to state on the note that your illness/symptoms are NOT COVID related.** The school nurse will need your physician’s note *before* you return to school.

It is necessary that you contact the school nurse and your supervisor to inform them of your test results.