

Mask

Masks must be worn indoors by staff, students, and visitors in all situations except as delineated in EO [251](#). This includes physical education classes, prior to boarding the school bus, while on the bus and until they are completely off the bus.

Exclusion

Parents should not send students to school when sick. For school settings, NJDOH recommends that students with the following symptoms be promptly isolated from others and excluded from school:

- At least two of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion or runny nose; OR

- At least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of smell, new loss of taste.

Additionally, students should stay home if they are not fully vaccinated and have had close contact with an individual with COVID-19 in the past 14 days.

Unvaccinated siblings of a student who has symptoms and meets COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria should be excluded from school until the symptomatic individual receives a negative test result. If the symptomatic individual tests positive, the sibling will need to quarantine.

An alternate diagnosis (including a positive strep test or influenza swab) without a negative COVID-19 test is not acceptable for individuals who meet COVID-19 exclusion criteria to return to school. Acceptable tests include molecular and rapid antigen.

Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with suspected or known COVID-19 for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour period.

Exception: In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) where both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.

In the school setting, excluded individuals who are close contacts of staff or students who tested positive for COVID-19 may be considered for a reduced exclusion period based on community transmission Levels:

High (orange) exposed close contacts who are not fully vaccinated should be excluded for 14 days.

Moderate or Low (yellow or green) exposed close contacts who are not fully vaccinated should be excluded from school for 10 days (or 7 days with negative test results collected at 5-7 days).

[Department of Health | Communicable Disease Service | COVID-19 Weekly CALL and Variant Surveillance Reports \(nj.gov\)](#)

Travel

- The NJDOH recommends that travel be delayed for those who are not fully vaccinated. If travel cannot be delayed, domestic and international travelers who are not fully vaccinated should get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel, even if they test negative.

- o If testing is not completed post-travel, individuals should self-quarantine for 10 days.

- International travelers who are fully vaccinated should get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel and self-monitor for symptoms, but do not need to quarantine during this time.

- For those traveling to/from New Jersey, domestic travel is defined as lasting 24 hours or longer to states or US territories other than those connected to New Jersey, such as Pennsylvania, New York, and Delaware.