



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

COVID-19 Compatible Illness Symptoms:

Students and Staff that present with COVID compatible symptoms and have:

- At least **two** of the following symptoms: fever (measured 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 olfactory disorder, new taste disorder.

COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms:

Fever- measured or subjective	Headache
Chills	Sore throat
Muscle or Body aches	Shortness of Breath
Fatigue	Cough
Congestion or Runny Nose	Difficulty Breathing
Nausea or Vomiting	New Loss of Taste
Diarrhea	New Loss of Smell

Please note:

- COVID-19 testing is not required for students who do not meet either of the above criteria to return to school. Additionally, students with chronic illness, only **new symptoms**, or **symptoms worse than baseline** should be used to fulfil these criteria. A clinical alternative diagnosis from the provider is NO longer accepted



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Exclusion Criteria for Positive COVID-19 Diagnosis Staff & Students

Diagnosis of COVID-19:

Persons who test positive for COVID-19 and are **Symptomatic** or persons with COVID-19 symptoms who weren't tested or who are **waiting for test results**

- Stay home and isolate from other people for at least **5 full days** (day 0 is the first day of symptoms)
 - a. If **symptoms resolve** (fever-free for 24 hours and other symptoms improve), **isolation can end after 5 full days (i.e., on day 6).**
 - a. **If symptoms persist** (fever or if other symptoms have not improved), continue to isolate until fever-free for 24 hours and other symptoms have improved.

Persons who test positive for COVID-19 but have no symptoms

- Stay home and isolate from other people for at least **5 full days** (day 0 is the day of the positive viral test).
 - a. If **NO** symptoms develop, isolation can end **after 5 full days** (i.e., on day 6).
 - b. If symptoms develop within one week of the positive test, the 5-day isolation period starts over with day 0 being the first day of symptoms. Follow recommendations for ending isolation for persons who have COVID-19 symptoms**

Nurse must be contacted by parent prior to STUDENTS ONLY returning to school for clearance.

CDC recommends an isolation period of a least 10 and up to 20 days for people who are severely ill with COVID-19 and for people with weakened immune systems.

Exception:

During periods of low community transmission (Green), ill individuals with COVID-19 compatible symptoms who are not tested **and do not have a known COVID-19 exposure** may follow NJDOH School Exclusion List to determine when they may return to school.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Individuals with an alternative diagnosis:

Evaluation by a health care provider may be necessary to differentiate between COVID-19 and alternative diagnoses. Clinical evaluation and/or testing for COVID-19 may be considered for ANY of the symptoms listed as COVID compatible, depending on suspicion of illness from a health care provider. Testing is strongly recommended, especially when there are multiple unlinked cases in the school and during periods of moderate and high levels of community transmission.

Individuals with COVID-19 compatible symptoms and no known exposure to a COVID-19 case in the last 5 days, regardless of vaccination status, may follow the NJDOH School Exclusion List to determine when they may return to school only if they have an alternative diagnosis (i.e., strep throat, influenza, worsening of chronic illness) supported by clinical evaluation.

Exception:

During periods of low community transmission (Green), ill individuals with COVID-19 compatible symptoms who are not tested **and do not have a known COVID-19 exposure** may follow NJDOH School Exclusion List to determine when they may return to school.

Additional precautions during/after isolation (everyone)

- **MASK:** Continue to wear a well-fitted mask when around others at home and in public through day 10. For those ending isolation on day 5, this would be during days 6 through 10. Persons who are unable to wear a mask when around others should stay home and isolate from other people for a full 10 days.
- **TRAVEL:** Avoid travel until a full 10 days after your first day of symptoms or if asymptomatic, after the date of the positive test. If travel is necessary on days 6-10, wear a well-fitting mask when around others for the entire duration of travel. Persons unable to wear a mask should not travel during the 10 days.
- **AVOID HIGH-RISK ACTIVITIES:** Avoid people who are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease, including nursing homes and other high-risk settings; do not go to places where you are unable to wear a mask, such as restaurants and some gyms, and avoid eating around others at home and at work until a full 10 days. 1 These timeframes do not apply to people with severe COVID-19



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

CONTACT TRACING

Contact tracing is a strategy used to determine the source of an infection and how it is spreading. Finding people who are close contacts to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, and therefore at higher risk of becoming infected themselves, can help prevent further spread of the virus.

Definition of a Close Contact

Per the CDC, a 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. In certain situations, it may be difficult to determine whether individuals have met this criterion and an entire cohort, classroom, or other group may need to be considered exposed.

Exception from the New Jersey DOH & DOE:

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.

This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

- **ONLY APPLICABLE FOR STUDENT TRANSMISSION within an indoor classroom setting:** A student in an indoor classroom setting is determined a close contact if they were within less than 3 feet of an infected Student Only.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

COVID-19 exclusion criteria for close contacts (quarantine):

Exposed close contacts who have no COVID-19 compatible symptoms in the following groups should be excluded from school:

- Age 18 or older who completed the primary series of a recommended COVID-19 vaccine, but have not received a recommended booster shot when eligible.
- Persons <18 years old who are not Fully Vaccinated

During Quarantine

- Stay home and away from other people for at least 5 days (Day 0 through Day 5) after the last close contact with a person who has COVID-19. The date of exposure is considered Day 0.
- If COVID-19 symptoms develop, get tested and follow isolation recommendations.
- IF asymptomatic, get tested on Day 5 after the last close contact.
 - If the test is positive, follow isolation recommendations
 - If the test is negative, you can end quarantine after day 5.
 - If testing is not available, you can end quarantine after day 5 (as long as there were no COVID-19 symptoms throughout the 5-day period).

For determining the timing of close contact to a COVID-19 case:

- Individuals would only be considered exposed if they had close contact during the case's isolation period (Day 1-5).
- Individuals would NOT be considered exposed during the case's additional precaution period at (Day 6-10).



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Close Contact & Household Contact Exclusion Criteria

Exposed close contacts who have no COVID-19 symptoms in the following groups **DO NOT** need to quarantine or be excluded from school:

- Age 18 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people.
- Age 5-17 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.
- Had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (tested positive using a viral test).

Everyone should:

- Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days from the date of their last close contact with someone with COVID-19 (the date of last close contact is considered day 0).
- **Get tested at least 5 days after having close contact with someone with COVID-19 unless they had confirmed COVID-19 in the last 90 days and subsequently recovered.**
- Monitor for fever (100.4°F or greater), cough, shortness of breath, or other COVID-19 symptoms for 10 days after their last exposure.
- On days 6-10, limit participation in extracurricular activities to only those activities where masks can be worn consistently and correctly



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Close Contact & Household Contact Exclusion Criteria

If any close contact experiences symptoms (regardless of vaccination status), they should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated if indicated, and get tested for COVID-19.

Exceptions for household contacts: In all risk levels, students and staff who meet the criteria for quarantine and who are household members of a student/staff member with COVID-19 compatible symptoms that meets COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria should be excluded from school until the symptomatic individual receives a negative test result. If the ill person is not tested but an alternative diagnosis is established after clinical evaluation, household contacts can return to school.

Exception: Household contacts who can't isolate away from a household member with COVID-19 should start their quarantine period on the day after the household member would have completed their 10- day isolation period, UNLESS the household member is able to consistently wear a well fitted mask in the household through day 10, in which case the quarantine period would start on the day after the household member completes their 5-day isolation period.

Schools serving medically complex or other high-risk individuals should use a **10-day** exclusion period for the exclusion of these individuals or those who work closely with them when identified as close contacts.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Exclusion Criteria for *COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms*: **Students ONLY**

COVID-19 Compatible Illness Symptoms:

Students that present with COVID compatible symptoms and have:

- At least **two** of the following symptoms: fever (measured 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 olfactory disorder, new taste disorder.

*Will not return to school until they have either received a **negative viral test** (molecular (PCR) or antigen (Rapid)) for SARS-CoV-2.*

OR

The individual has completed an isolation period of at **least 5 days** since symptom onset and at **least 24 hours** after resolution of fever without fever-reducing medications with symptom improvement.

Please note:

- COVID-19 testing is not required for students who do not meet either of the above criteria to return to school. Additionally, students with chronic illness, only **new symptoms**, or **symptoms worse than baseline** should be used to fulfil these criteria. A clinical alternative diagnosis from the provider is NO longer accepted

Exception:

During periods of low community transmission (**LEVEL GREEN**), **ill individuals excluded for COVID-19 compatible symptoms who are not tested and do not have a known COVID-19 exposure may follow NJDOH School Exclusion List to determine when they may return to school.**



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Exclusion Procedure for COVID Compatible Symptoms:

- Entry into the school facility will not be allowed. Isolation protocol will be followed if student presents symptoms during school day. Parent/Guardian must be notified immediately and provided instructions on return to school. Student/Staff must immediately go home **and seek medical care from a physician or administration of a COVID-19 test.**
- Cloth face covering or surgical mask if appropriate while awaiting parent retrieval. Student will be escorted to the isolation room.
- **If diagnosed with COVID-19 based on a viral test. Student may return to school when at least all of the following have occurred. 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine and improvement in COVID-19 symptoms.**
- **If the student provides a negative Rapid or PCR COVID-19 test, student may return to school after being fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication (Tylenol, Advil, Motrin, etc.) and improvement in symptoms.**
- Student may participate in remote learning (if applicable) while exclusion is in place.

Cleaning:

- Area that came in contact by the sick student will be closed until a thorough cleaning with EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against Coronavirus has been completed.
- Use of an air purifier will be used in the affected area to remove viral particles circulating through the area. If needed outside doors and windows will be opened to increase circulation in the area

Communication with students, families, and staff:

- If positive COVID-19 results, health department will be notified immediately and assistance will be provided in regards to contact tracing.
- Communication to staff and families will be provided in accordance with State and Federal Laws to maintain confidentiality.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Exclusion Criteria for *COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms:* Staff Only

COVID-19 Compatible Illness Symptoms:

Staff presents with COVID compatible symptoms and have:

- At least **two** of the following symptoms: fever (measured 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 olfactory disorder, new taste disorder.

*Will not return to school until they have either received a **negative viral test** (molecular (PCR) or antigen (Rapid)) for SARS-CoV-2.*

OR

The staff member has completed an isolation period of at **least 5 days** since symptom onset and at **least 24 hours** after resolution of fever without fever-reducing medications with symptom improvement. Individual must have a clearance note from the physician if absent more than 3 days.

Please Note

- Staff member must stay home if someone in household is being tested for COVID-19 due to illness, staff member must remain home until the test result of the ill family member is received.
- Principal or immediate supervisor and the school nurse must be notified

COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms:

Fever- measured or subjective	Headache
Chills	Sore throat
Muscle or Body aches	Shortness of Breath
Fatigue	Cough
Congestion or Runny Nose	Difficulty Breathing
Nausea or Vomiting	New Loss of Taste
Diarrhea	New Loss of Smell



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms with a negative Viral Test:

Staff Only

- If the COVID-19 viral test (PCR or Antigen) was negative, individual may return to school 24 hours after their fever has ended without the use of fever reducing medication and other symptoms improve.
- If employee is absent for more than 10 consecutive days a physician clearance note is required per district absence protocol.
- Staff member must stay home if someone in their household is being tested for COVID due to illness, staff member must remain home until the test result of the ill family member is received.
- Principal or immediate supervisor and the school nurse must be notified



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Exclusion Procedure for Positive COVID-19 Diagnosis

Staff Only

Diagnosis of COVID-19:

- Individual may return to school 5-10 days after the onset of symptoms or 10 days after the date of their positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, person must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication and symptoms must be improved since their positive test. Please note, individuals who are severely ill with COVID and individuals with a weekend immune system may need to be isolated 10-20 days.
- All school based close contacts will be identified and excluded per Risk category.
- Staff member must stay home if they have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 within the past 14 days and NOT FULLY Vaccinated.
- Principal or immediate supervisor must be notified immediately, then the school nurse must be notified



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

*Positive Screening Protocols Upon Arrival to School and or During the School Day: **FOR STAFF ONLY***

Exposure to COVID-19:

Staff shares they were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 2 weeks

Exclusion:

- Entry into the school facility will not be allowed. Individual must immediately go home.
- Recommended that employee obtain a COVID antigen or molecular test.
- **Individual may return to school 5 days after last close contact, if no symptoms develop nor have a positive COVID-19 (PCR) or Rapid test.**
- **Based upon Risk category, modification of exclusion may be adjusted (please refer to SOP for Exclusion Category).**
- Supervisor/principal must be immediately notified and then the school nurse must be contacted.
- Approval to work remotely is at the discretion of the Superintendent and Human Resources (if applicable). **(At this time, the option to work remotely is NOT applicable).**
- You must use your sick time for all COVID related absences.

Notification:

- Atlantic County Health Department will be immediately notified and ACBOE will adhere to the directions shared by the Health Department, such as contacting tracing of students, staff, families, and/or specific cleaning protocols.

Please note that individuals who have had COVID-19 within past 3 months due not need to self-quarantine or get tested as long as they do not develop symptoms



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

STAFF ONLY

Diagnosis of COVID-19:

Staff shares they were diagnosed with COVID-19 less than 10 days ago

Exclusion:

- Entry into the school facility will not be allowed. Individual must immediately go home.
- **Individual may return to school 5-10 days after symptom onset or positive test result and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications and improvement of symptoms.**
- Supervisor/Principal must be immediately notified then the school nurse must be notified.
- Approval to work remotely is at the discretion of the Superintendent and Human Resources (if applicable). (At this time, the option to work remotely is NOT applicable).
- You must use your sick time for all COVID related absences.

Notification:

- Atlantic County Health Department will be notified of all COVID-19 cases; the school district will work closely with ACHD to help mitigate further spread.

Cleaning:

- Closing off areas that came in contact by the sick person and not using the areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.
- Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase circulation in the area
- Use of an EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against coronavirus
- Remembering to clean items that might not ordinarily be cleaned daily such as doorknobs, light switches, countertops, chairs, and playground structures.

Closure:

- Close off areas used by the sick individual, areas will not be used until after appropriate cleaning and disinfecting.
- Consult with Atlantic County Health Department as to whether closure of classroom or entire building is required.

Communication with students, families, and staff:

- School will coordinate with Atlantic County Health Department to determine how to inform families and staff as appropriate.
- Notification to staff and families must maintain confidentiality in accordance with State and Federal laws.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

STAFF ONLY

COVID-19 Symptoms:

Staff presents with at least one of the following COVID compatible symptoms

Exclusion:

- Entry into the school facility will not be allowed. Individual must immediately go home and seek medical care, which includes a COVID (molecular) PCR or Rapid (antigen) test.
- Individuals may return to school after a negative COVID-19 antigen (Rapid) or molecular (PCR) test and 24 hours have passed after being fever free without the use of fever-reducing medicine and other symptoms improved.
- If individual has COVID-19 compatible symptoms and has not been tested for COVID-19 or if diagnosed with COVID-19 based on a viral test. Individual must stay home until at least 5 days have passed since onset of symptoms and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications and improvement of symptoms. **Individual must have a clearance note from the physician.**
- Staff member must stay home if someone in household is being tested for COVID-19 due to illness, staff member must remain home until the test result of the ill family member is received.
- Principal or immediate supervisor and the school nurse must be notified
- Approval to work remotely is at the discretion of the Superintendent and Human Resources (if applicable). **(At this time, the option to work remotely is NOT applicable).**
- **You must use your sick time for all COVID related absences.**

Notification:

- Atlantic County Health Department will be notified and of all COVID-19 cases, the school district will work closely with ACHD to help mitigate further spread.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Cleaning:

- Closing off areas that came in contact by the sick person and not using the areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.
- Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase circulation in the area
- Use of an EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against coronavirus
- Remembering to clean items that might not ordinarily be cleaned daily such as doorknobs, light switches, countertops, chairs, and playground structures.

Closure:

- Close off areas used by the sick individual, areas will not be used until after appropriate cleaning and disinfecting.
- Consult of Atlantic County Health Department as to whether closure of classroom or entire building is required.

Communication with students, families, and staff:

- School will coordinate with Atlantic County Health Department to determine how to inform families and staff as appropriate.
- Notification to staff and families must maintain confidentiality in accordance with State and Federal laws.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Positive Screening Protocols Upon Arrival to School and or During the School Day: **STUDENTS ONLY**

Exposure, No symptoms:

Student shares they were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 2 weeks

Exclusion:

- Entry into the school facility will not be allowed. Individual must immediately go home. If notification of exposure occurs during the school day, the Parent/Guardian will be contacted immediately. Student will remain in designated isolation area with supervision by a delegated staff member until parent/guardian arrives
- **Individual may return to school 5-10 days after last exposure to close contact, if no symptoms develop nor do they have a positive COVID-19 test. Based upon Risk category modification of exclusion may be adjusted (please refer to SOP for Exclusion Category).**
- **If exposure is due to a household contact, individual may be excluded for 10-15 days.**
- Individual must wear a cloth face covering if appropriate.
- Individual may not utilize group transportation such as the bus in order to leave the school facility.
- Individual may participate in remote learning while excluded (if applicable).

Notification:

- Atlantic County Health Department will immediately be notified and ACBOE will adhere to the directions shared by Health Department, such as contacting students, staff, and families, and/or specific cleaning protocols.

Cleaning:

School will follow directions shared by the New Jersey Department of Health

Please note individual is excluded from quarantine and testing if the person had COVID-19 within the last 3 months and is not displaying symptoms.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

STUDENTS ONLY

Diagnosis of COVID-19:

Student shares they were diagnosed with COVID-19 less than 10 days ago

Exclusion:

- Entry into the school facility will not be allowed. Individual must immediately go home. If notification of exposure occurs during the school day, Parent/Guardian will be contacted immediately. Student will remain in a designated isolation area with supervision by a delegated staff member until parent/guardian arrives.
- Individual must wear an appropriate cloth face covering if appropriate
- Individual may not utilize group transportation such as the bus in order to leave the school facility.
- **Individual may return to school 5-10 days after symptom onset or positive test and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications and improvement of symptoms.**
- Individual may participate in remote learning while excluded (if applicable).
- **Parent must contact you prior to their child returning to school to identify the absence of symptoms.**

Notification:

- Atlantic County Health Department will be notified of all COVID-19 cases; the school district will work closely with ACHD to help mitigate further spread.

Cleaning:

- Closing off areas that came in contact by the sick person and not using the areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.
- Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase circulation in the area
- Use of an EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against coronavirus
- Remembering to clean items that might not ordinarily be cleaned daily such as doorknobs, light switches, countertops, chairs, and playground structures.

Closure:

- Close off areas used by the sick individual, areas will not be used until after appropriate cleaning and disinfecting.
- Consult with Atlantic County Health Department as to whether closure of classroom or entire building is required.

Communication with students, families, and staff:

- School will coordinate with Atlantic County Health Department to determine how to inform families and staff as appropriate.
- If positive COVID-19, health department will assist in notifying staff and families that there was an individual who was at the school who tested positive with COVID-19.
- Notification to staff and families must maintain confidentiality in accordance with State and Federal laws.t5fv



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Procedures for: Exposure on School Bus **STUDENTS ONLY**

Diagnosis of COVID-19:

Individual that travels on bus tested positive for COVID-19 less than 10 days ago

Exclusion:

- Entry into the school facility will not be allowed. Individual must immediately go home. If notification of exposure occurs during the school day, Parent/Guardian will be contacted immediately. Student will remain in a designated isolation area with supervision by a delegated staff member until parent/guardian arrives.
- Individual must wear an appropriate cloth face covering if appropriate
- Individual may not utilize group transportation such as the bus in order to leave the school facility.
- **Individual may return to school 5-10 days after symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications and improvement of symptoms.**
- Individual may participate in remote learning while excluded (if applicable).

Contact Tracing:

- Only the Medically Advisory Nurses should be contacted to start an investigation. The Medical Advisory Nurses will contact the appropriate bus company to determine possible “close contacts” and need for quarantine. The Medical Advisory Nurses will notify the Supervisor/Contact person of the appropriate bus company of ACBOE procedures, proper disinfecting procedures, and individuals that must quarantine.
Medical Advisory Nurses- Charlotte Nagele-Boles & Sherese Price-Chapman

Notification:

- Atlantic County Health Department will be notified and of all COVID-19 cases, the school district will work closely with ACHD to help mitigate further spread.

Communication with students, families, and staff:

- School will coordinate with Atlantic County Health Department to determine how to inform families and staff as appropriate.
- If positive COVID-19, health department will assist in notifying staff and families that there was an individual who was on the school bus tested positive with COVID-19.
- Notification to staff and families must maintain confidentiality in accordance with State and Federal laws



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

COVID Testing & Screening/Temperature Procedures

Covid-19 Testing

Only COVID-19 antigen (Rapid) or molecular (PCR) tests are acceptable proofs of documentation for COVID negative status. At this time, at home test are not acceptable proofs of COVID negative status.

VIRAL POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST within the last 3 months

Procedures for Individuals testing positive for COVID-19 within the last 3 months

- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 with a viral test (Rapid or PCR) in the last 3 months; you DO NOT need to quarantine if you are exposed to the COVID-19 virus again, as long as the exposure is within 3 months of your positive test result and you are NOT displaying COVID symptoms.

Please continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 10 days following an exposure. If you experience symptoms, you should contact the school nurse immediately. You will also need to be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, including a viral test and exclusion from the school building.

Screening/Temperature Procedures

Infection Control:

- Individuals waiting to be screened must stand six feet apart from each other.
- The staff person taking temperature must wear a cloth face covering and must stay six feet apart unless taking temperature.

Cleaning:

- Closing off areas that came in contact by the sick person and not using the areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase circulation in the area
- Use of an EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against coronavirus
- Remembering to clean items that might not ordinarily be cleaned daily such as doorknobs, light switches, countertops, chairs, and playground structures.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Travel Advisory:

Students Only

Domestic Travel:

Unvaccinated individuals should test 3-5 days after travel and self-quarantine for 7 days after domestic travel, and for 10 days if they are unable to test.

Fully vaccinated individuals or those who have recovered from COVID in the past 3 months do not need to get tested or self-quarantine after travel.

International Travel:

After travel to the United States, ALL travelers should get tested with a COVID-19 viral test 3-5 days after travel, self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms, and isolate and get tested if they develop symptoms.

Unvaccinated travelers should stay home and self-quarantine for a FULL 7 days, even if they test negative, and for 10 days if they are unable to test.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Fully Vaccinated Individuals & Exemptions

Adults (18 and over) and DO NOT Need to Quarantine if exposed

Must have completed the following:

- 2-dose series of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines)
- OR
- Single-dose COVID vaccine, (Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine)
 - Received recommended vaccine, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised
 - Must also have proof of vaccination status with an authorized Vaccine Card

Children 5 through 17 of age and DO NOT NEED to Quarantine if exposed

Must have completed the following:

- A primary series consists of 2 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine

Individuals that meet the above requirements

Individuals that meet the above requirements and who have been exposed to someone suspected or confirmed of having COVID-19. These individuals are NOT required to quarantine if they meet criteria and have remained asymptomatic.

If Fully Vaccinated individuals start experiencing symptoms, they should contact the school nurse immediately; and should also be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, by a physician, which includes a viral test.

*Fully vaccinated individuals who meet the above criteria and do not need to quarantine must still notify the nurse of their exposure and should still monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 10 days following an exposure.

***Fully vaccinated individuals MUST obtain and present a COVID (Rapid) test 5 days after exposure, regardless of whether they have symptoms.**

Individuals who **DO NOT** meet all of the above criteria should continue to follow current quarantine guidance after exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Sports and Other Activities

When the COVID-19 risk level of community transmission is **VERY HIGH (RED)**, it is recommended that schools:

- Limit participation in extracurricular activities to those students and staff who are up to date with COVID-19 vaccination per ACIP recommendations.
- Conduct COVID-19 screening testing of students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, twice weekly for participation in all extracurricular activities.

When the COVID-19 risk level of community transmission is **HIGH (orange)**, schools should carefully consider which activities they determine can continue, based on the individual activity's risk, strategies, to reduce those risks, and the ability to ensure compliance with COVID-19 prevention recommendations.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

COVID- 19 - Face Coverings and Hand Hygiene Protocol

CDC recommends that “people, including teachers, staff, and students, wear cloth face coverings in public settings when around people who live outside of their household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.”

NJ DOE recommends “Students are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings and are required to do so when social distancing cannot be maintained, unless doing so would inhibit the student’s health. It is necessary to acknowledge that enforcing the use of face coverings may be impractical for young children or individuals with disabilities.”

Masks

Wearing masks is an important prevention strategy to help slow the spread of COVID-19 when combined with everyday preventive actions and social distancing in public settings.

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

In general, students or staff do not need to wear masks outdoors, including during outdoor physical education classes or school sports except during days 6-10 after completing a 5-day isolation or quarantine. However, schools may encourage the use of masks during outdoor activities that involve sustained close contact with other individuals or during periods of high community transmission.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

MASKS

The following principles apply to the use of masks in while indoors or on school buses:

- Masks, respirators, and/or barriers generally do not preclude an individual from being identified as a close contact to a COVID-19 case. (see exception below). For the purpose of this document, masks and respirators are considered together, and the term “masks” is used.
- Information should be provided to staff and students on proper use, removal, and – for cloth masks - washing. Information about types of masks and respirators, and how to care for them can be found here.
 - The most effective fabrics for cloth masks are tightly woven such as cotton and cotton blends, breathable, and in two or three fabric layers. Masks with exhalation valves or vents, those that use loosely woven fabrics, and ones that do not fit properly are NOT allowed.
 - Cloth masks should be washed after every day of use and/or before being used again, or if visibly soiled or damp/wet.
 - Disposable face masks should be changed daily or when visibly soiled, damp or damaged.
 - Students and schools should have additional disposable or cloth masks available for students, teachers, and staff in case a back-up mask is needed (e.g., mask is soiled or lost during the day).
 - Clear masks that cover the nose and wrap securely around the face may be considered in certain circumstances including for the teaching of students with disabilities, young students learning to read, or students in English as a second language classes.

Appropriate and consistent use of masks may be challenging for some individuals, however, mask use is required for all individuals in indoor school settings with the following exceptions:

- When doing so would inhibit the individual’s health, such as when the individual is exposed to extreme heat indoors;
- When the individual has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance;
- When a student’s documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Educational Plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, precludes use of a face covering;
- When the individual is under two (2) years of age;
- When the individual is engaged in activity that cannot physically be performed while wearing a mask, such as eating or drinking, or playing a musical instrument that would be obstructed by a face covering;



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Masks continued:

- When the individual is engaged in high-intensity aerobic or anaerobic activity;
- When a student is participating in high-intensity physical activities during a physical education class in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet from all other individuals; or
- When wearing a face covering creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.

Masks and/or barriers do not preclude an individual from being identified as a “close contact” to a COVID-19 case.

Acceptable Face Coverings

- Cloth face mask with 2 or more layers of washable, breathable fabric
- Surgical face mask
- KN95 mask
- Clear masks- (certain circumstances)

***Gaiters and face masks with exhalation valves are not acceptable for the school setting and will not be permitted.**

Clear masks:

Clear masks that cover the nose and wrap securely around the face may be considered in certain circumstances if they do not cause breathing difficulties or overheating for the wearer. Clear masks are not face shields. CDC does not recommend use of face shields for normal everyday activities or as a substitute for masks because of a lack of evidence of their effectiveness for source control.

- Teachers and staff who may consider using clear masks include:
- Those who interact with students or staff who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Teachers of young students learning to read.
- Teachers of students in English as a Second Language classes.
- Teachers of students with disabilities.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Physical Distancing and Cohorting

- **Within classrooms**, maintain 3 feet of physical distancing to the greatest extent practicable, combined with masking for all individuals per EO 251.
- **Outside of classrooms** including in hallways, locker rooms, indoor and outdoor physical education settings, and school-sponsored transportation, maintain physical distancing to the greatest extent practicable.
- The CDC recommends a distance of at least 6 feet between students and teachers/staff and between teachers/staff who are not fully vaccinated in all settings.
- As feasible, maintain cohorts or groups of students with dedicated staff who remain together throughout the day, including at recess, lunch times, and while participating in extracurricular activities.
 - Cohorting people who are not fully vaccinated and people who are fully vaccinated into separate cohorts is not recommended. Schools should ensure that cohorting is done in an equitable manner.

For meals offered in cafeterias or other group dining areas, where masks may not be worn, schools should utilize as many layered prevention strategies as feasible to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

These include:

- Maximizing physical distance as much as possible when moving through the food service line and while eating (especially indoors).
 - Consider alternatives to use of group dining areas such as eating in classrooms or outdoors.
 - Stagger eating times to allow for physical distancing.
 - Maintain students in cohorts and limit mixing between groups if possible.
- Avoiding offering self-serve food options.
- Discouraging students from sharing meals.
- Encouraging routine cleaning between groups.
- Cleaning frequently touched surfaces. Surfaces that come in contact with food should be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before and after meals. Given the data regarding COVID-19 transmission, the use of single-use items, such as disposable utensils, is not necessary during meals.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Physical Distancing and Cohorting

Identifying opportunities to maximize physical distancing should be prioritized for the following higher-risk scenarios, especially during periods of high community transmission:

- In common areas, such as school lobbies and auditoriums.
- When masks can't be worn, such as when eating, especially when indoors.
- When masks may be removed, such as during outdoor

Social Distancing Guidelines

Best practice when possible: 6 ft. distance and minimum of less than 15-minute contact time during a 24-hour period.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

When illness occurs in the school setting

Children and staff with COVID-19 symptoms regardless of vaccination status should be separated away from others until they can be sent home (quarantine area). If a mask is not worn by the ill student due to an exemption or exception described in EO 251, other staff should be sure to adhere to the universal mask policy and follow maximum physical distancing guidelines (6 feet away).

- Ask ill student (or parent) and staff whether they have had potential exposure to COVID-19 meeting the definition of a close contact.
- Individuals should be sent home and referred to a healthcare provider. Persons with COVID-19- compatible symptoms should undergo COVID-19 testing regardless of vaccination status.
 - If community transmission is low ill individuals without potential exposure to COVID-19 should use the NJDOH School Exclusion List to determine when they may return to school. No public health notification is needed UNLESS there is an unusual increase in the number of persons who are ill (over normal levels), which might indicate an outbreak.
 - If ill students have potential COVID-19 exposure OR if community transmission is moderate or high, they should continue to be excluded according to the COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria.
- Schools should notify LHDs when students or staff:
 - Are ill and have potential COVID-19 exposure;
 - When there is an increase in the number of persons with COVID-19 compatible symptoms;
 - Test positive for COVID-19 (when in-school testing is performed).
- Schools should be prepared to provide the following information when consulting with the LHD: Contact information for the ill persons;
 - The date the ill person developed symptoms, tested positive for COVID-19 (if known), and was last in the building;
 - Types of interactions (close contacts, length of contact) the person may have had with other persons in the building or in other locations;
 - Vaccination status of the ill person and the close contacts.
 - Names, addresses, and telephone numbers for ill person's close contacts in the school;
 - Any other information to assist with the determination of next steps.



ATLANTIC CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1300 ATLANTIC AVENUE
ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08401

Office of Special Education

Vaccination for ALL STAFF MEMBERS

Governor Murphy Mandate (August 23, 2021)

All Pre-school-12 School Personnel are required to be FULLY VACCINATED by October 18, 2021; or undergo regular testing a minimum of once to twice each week.

All Staff that are Fully Vaccinated will need to present their vaccination card or a copy of their vaccination card to the School Nurse.

Please note, vaccination card must contain, the employees Name & DOB, as well as the date of vaccination, lot number of vaccines, and the facilities name that gave the vaccine.