Department of Health and Human Services
COVID-19 Coronavirus

Novel Coronavirus: Schools Guidance

Updated July 7, 2021

Purpose of Guidance:
The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for schools in Nebraska. These recommendations are intended for school staff and administrators responsible for educating school-aged individuals.

Guidance:
For school aged individuals who have had close contact with a person(s) whom has developed or during the 48 hours prior to the person developing one or more of the following symptoms: sudden onset of cough, sudden onset of shortness of breath or sudden loss of taste or smell; or whom has developed or during the 48 hours prior to the person developing two or more of the following symptoms: a fever of 100.4 or above, chills, muscle aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea or fatigue or with a person whom has tested positive for COVID-19 whichever event occurs earlier, may meet the following conditions in lieu of quarantine:

• Self-monitor daily for fever or other symptom (listed above) development for 14 days and have NO symptom development.

If symptom development occurs within the 14 day self-monitoring need to follow isolation guidance.

Isolation shall continue until:
• At least ten (10) days* have passed since onset of symptoms AND
• Symptoms have improved AND
• The isolated individual has been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication

*For patients with severe illness or are severely immunocompromised, this length of time may need to be extended. Please consult your health care provider or local health department for further guidance on these situations.

For individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 and do NOT have symptoms may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:
• At least ten (10) days have passed since the date of their 1st positive test AND
• Have had no symptom development AND
• For 3 days following discontinuation of isolation, these people must continue to limit contact and when possible wear a face covering.

For the latest school operations guidance, please visit the Nebraska Department of Education’s website here: https://www.education.ne.gov/
School Aged Individuals Self-Monitoring and Quarantine and Isolation Directions FAQs

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Q: If my school-aged individual is in extracurricular activities but has been exposed, can they participate in those extracurricular activities?

A: Yes, the school aged individual may participate in extracurricular activities as long as they are following the self-monitoring requirements.

Q: If my school-aged individual has a part-time job but has been exposed, can they still attend work?

A: Yes, the school aged individual may attend work as long as they are following the self-monitoring requirements. All worksite policies (including healthcare workers) need to be followed by the exposed individual including notifying the worksite of the exposure.

Q: Does my child need to wear a mask at outdoor recess?

A: No, the risk of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in an outdoor setting is low.