

COVID-19 Exclusion and Return to Work Chart October 24, 2020

	Reason for Exclusion	General Exclusion Period	Beginning When?	How to Return Sooner or Later?	
1.	Individual tested positive for COVID-19, and HAD SYMPTOMS ¹	14 days	Onset of symptoms	<p>Symptom-Based Strategy</p> <p>May return sooner, after:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Isolation for at least 10 days after symptoms began, and 2) at least 24 hours with no fever (100.4°F or higher) without the use of fever-reducing medications, and 3) improvement or resolution of other symptoms. 	<p>Test-Based Strategy</p> <p>Not recommended to return sooner; may be used for later return in immunocompromised individuals or those with severe symptoms, in consultation with infection control experts.</p>
2.	Individual tested positive for COVID-19, but had NO SYMPTOMS	10 days	Date of test	<p>Time-Based Strategy</p> <p>May return sooner, after:</p> <p>Isolation for at least 10 days since date of first positive COVID-19 test.</p>	<p>Test-Based Strategy</p> <p>Not recommended to return sooner; may be used for later return in immunocompromised individuals, in consultation with infection control experts.</p>

¹ Fever of 100.4°F or higher, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of smell or taste, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.

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	Reason for Exclusion	General Exclusion Period	Beginning When?	How to Return Sooner or Later?	
3.	Individual had close contact ¹ with someone who tested positive.	14 days*	After the last/most recent contact with infected person	N/A	N/A
4.	Individual had close contact with someone who is suspected of having COVID-19.	14 days*	After the last/most recent contact with infected person	N/A	N/A
5.	Individual exhibits one or more COVID-19 symptoms but is not suspected of having COVID-19 (e.g., seasonal allergies, migraine, food poisoning, etc.)	14 days*	Onset of symptoms	Symptom-Based Strategy May return sooner, after: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Isolation for at least 10 days after symptoms began, and 2) at least 24 hours with no fever (100.4°F or higher) without the use of fever-reducing medications, and 3) improvement or resolution of other symptoms. 	Physician-Based Strategy May return sooner, after: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) At least 24 hours with no fever (100.4°F or higher) without the use of fever-reducing medications, and 2) Improvement or resolution of other symptoms, and/or² 3) Release from Health Care Provider of alternative diagnosis + negative COVID-19 test

* No exclusion necessary if individual meets 3 criteria: (1) had COVID-19 within previous 3 months; (2) has recovered; **and** (3) remains symptom-free.

¹ Within 6 feet of infected person for at least 15 minutes, starting from 2 days prior to onset of symptoms, (or, for asymptomatic infected person, 2 days prior to positive test date) until the time the patient is isolated.

² Individuals may return to work with *certain* unresolved symptoms with a doctor's release that the symptoms are not due to COVID-19.

All guidance subject to change based on revised criteria from the CDC, IDPH, ISBE and local public health agencies.