

COVID-19 RAPID TESTING AND QUARANTINE GUIDELINES

Maryland's Largest School District

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

Free rapid (antigen) tests* are given to students who exhibit one or more COVID-19 symptoms (fever of 100.4 or >, sore throat, cough, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, vomiting, new onset of severe headache, new onset of loss of taste or smell). These steps only apply to students who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms during the school day.

	ACTIONS FOR STUDENT/HOUSEHOLD	RETURN TO SCHOOL	ACTIONS FOR CLOSE CONTACTS**
<p>COVID-19 SYMPTOMS</p> <p>+</p> <p>POSITIVE RAPID TEST</p>	<p>Student and any school-age unvaccinated household members go home.</p>	<p>10-day isolation period</p> <p>AND</p> <p>COVID-19 return criteria met</p>	<p>If unvaccinated: Quarantine for 10 days, self-monitor for 14 days.</p> <p>If vaccinated: Remain in school. If symptoms occur, get tested.</p>
<p>COVID-19 SYMPTOMS</p> <p>-</p> <p>NEGATIVE RAPID TEST</p>	<p>Student goes home with recommendation to get PCR test*** to verify negative result.</p>	<p>Negative PCR test OR Alternate diagnosis</p> <p>AND</p> <p>COVID-19 return criteria met</p>	<p>Remain in school pending PCR results: NEGATIVE: Remain in school. POSITIVE: 10-day quarantine.</p> <p>If vaccinated and asymptomatic: Remain in school. If symptoms occur, get tested.</p>
<p>COVID-19 SYMPTOMS</p> <p>X</p> <p>NO RAPID TEST</p>	<p>If unvaccinated: Goes home with recommendation to get PCR test.</p> <p>If vaccinated: Goes home with recommendation to get PCR test.</p>	<p>Quarantine for 10 days</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Negative PCR test OR Alternate diagnosis</p> <p>AND</p> <p>COVID-19 return criteria met</p>	<p>If unvaccinated: Remain in school unless student with symptoms had a known exposure.</p> <p>If vaccinated: Remain in school, regardless of known exposure.</p>

COVID-19 return criteria No fever for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and improving symptoms.

*Parents must provide written or verbal consent for testing.

**Close contact: When a classmate was less than 3 feet of the student with confirmed COVID-19 while inside classroom or less than 6 feet of the student while at lunch/recess for a total of at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).

***PCR test: School health staff will provide information on locations that offer PCR testing. When they become available, PCR tests will be given in school.

Note: These guidelines are based on guidance from the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, the Maryland State Department of Health, and the Maryland State Department of Education.