



New COVID-19 Guidance for Fall 2022

Washington state updated its [COVID-19 school and child care guidance](#) on August 5, 2022. Following these safety measures reduces the spread of COVID-19. This letter explains how the updated guidance impacts your family and the community.

Health and Safety Requirements for this Fall:

- Students and staff who [show symptoms of COVID-19 are required to stay home](#), and should get tested for COVID-19.
- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 are required to isolate at home for **5 days**. If symptoms improve and they have had no fever for the past 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications, students and staff can come back to school and are encouraged to test before returning. See page 2.
- Students and staff returning to school after isolation should wear a well-fitted mask from days 6 to 10. Individuals returning to school from isolation should also remain masked for sports and other extracurricular activities. See page 6.
- Students and staff who test positive after 5 days of isolation must stay at home for the full 10-day isolation period. See page 6.
- Schools must inform students, families, and staff when there are cases or outbreaks in school. We will communicate cases and outbreaks to families on our COVID-19 dashboard which is updated weekly. Schools are no longer required to directly notify high risk students or staff. See page 3.

These requirements are in place for all public and private K-12 schools and child care facilities in Washington state. Schools and child care facilities are required by state law to follow these guidelines.

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, we offer free COVID-19 take-home tests for staff and students at school. Households are encouraged to test as needed at home. You can also receive free self-tests from the [Say Yes! COVID Test program](#). Most insurance covers the costs of up to 8 self-tests per individual per month.

[COVID-19 vaccinations](#) remain the best protection for everyone against hospitalization and severe disease from COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccine is now [available for children 6 months and older](#). Booster doses are also available for children 5 years and older. You are encouraged to vaccinate your children if they are eligible, in consultation with your health care provider.

We look forward to creating safe and healthy spaces for our students when they return this fall.

Sincerely,

CSD Health Services