



COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH FLOWCHART

UW Medicine medical facility personnel follow UW Medicine protocols and reporting procedures.
School of Dentistry staff and students follow School of Dentistry guidance.

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SCENARIO 1: You tested positive for COVID-19.

Regardless of your vaccination status and regardless of whether or not you have symptoms.

REPORT IT.

Submit a [COVID-19 reporting form](#).

STAY HOME AND SELF-ISOLATE.

Do not go to work or class for 5 days since your symptoms started, 5 days since your test date (if you have no symptoms), or as instructed.³ Follow [CDC isolation procedures](#).

SEND AN EXPOSURE NOTIFICATION VIA WA NOTIFY.

Go to Exposure Notifications on your mobile device to request a PIN and issue an anonymous notification.

COMPLETE THE ELECTRONIC SURVEY.

The COVID-19 Response and Prevention Team¹ will send a link to a health survey prior to the end of your isolation period.

Did your symptoms improve after 5 days of isolation?

YES

NO

End isolation after day 5 if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved.³

Remain in isolation until you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved.² Contact covidehc@uw.edu if you have questions.

Individuals with weakened immune systems and those who have [moderate or severe illness](#) should talk with their healthcare provider before [ending isolation](#).

FOLLOW ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS⁴ THROUGH DAY 10.

Wear a [well-fitting high-quality mask \(surgical mask or KF94/KN95/N95 respirator\)](#) for 10 days when indoors around others at home and in public.⁵ Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a mask. Avoid travel and follow additional [CDC precautions](#). Visit the CDC's [COVID-19 Testing](#) webpage for guidance on when to re-test.

SCENARIO 2: You were in close contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19.

Notify covidehc@uw.edu if your exposure was potentially related to workplace or campus activities (and you have not already been notified by the University).

Do you have symptoms?

YES

NO

STAY HOME AND SELF-ISOLATE.

Do not go to work and/or class. Wear a [well-fitting surgical mask or KF94/KN95/N95 respirator](#) when around others at home and in public.

GET TESTED IMMEDIATELY.

POSITIVE

FOLLOW SCENARIO 1.

NEGATIVE

If you tested using an at-home rapid antigen test, test again with another at-home rapid antigen test in 48 hours or get a PCR lab test to confirm your result. If the second result is negative, you can return to work and/or class if all of the following apply to you:
1. Your symptoms are mild; and
2. Your symptoms have improved; and
3. You have not had a fever for at least 24 hours without using fever-reducing medication.
If your symptoms are severe or getting worse, stay home and consult a healthcare provider.

YES

Follow [CDC guidance](#) for ongoing exposure and contact covidehc@uw.edu if you have questions.

YOU CAN RETURN TO WORK AND/OR CLASS.

Wear a [well-fitting surgical mask or KF94/KN95/N95 respirator](#) when around others at home and in public for 10 days. Watch for symptoms through day 10. If symptoms develop, follow instructions in Scenario 2.

GET TESTED AT LEAST 5 DAYS AFTER EXPOSURE

POSITIVE

FOLLOW SCENARIO 1.

NEGATIVE

If you tested using an at-home rapid antigen test, test again with another at-home rapid antigen test in 48 hours or get a PCR lab test to confirm your result. Watch for symptoms and wear a mask around others outside of your household for 10 days since your last exposure. If you develop symptoms, follow instructions for close contacts with symptoms in Scenario 2.

NO

No further action is needed.

Will you have ongoing close contact (e.g., household member has COVID-19)?

SCENARIO 3: You have one or more COVID-19 symptoms but no known exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual.

STAY HOME AND SELF-ISOLATE.

Do not go to work and/or class, regardless of vaccination status.

GET TESTED IMMEDIATELY.

POSITIVE

FOLLOW SCENARIO 1.

NEGATIVE

If you tested using an at-home rapid antigen test, test again with another at-home rapid antigen test in 48 hours or get a PCR lab test to confirm your result. Stay home until symptoms have improved and you have not had a fever for at least 24 hours without using fever-reducing medication. If symptoms worsen, get tested again and contact your health care provider.

Wear a [well-fitting, surgical mask or KF94/KN95/N95 respirator](#) while waiting for your test results. You can remove your mask after symptoms resolve or confirming you do not have COVID-19 (by taking a PCR test or at least two antigen tests at least 48 hours apart), whichever is later.

¹Contact covidehc@uw.edu or 206.616.3344 to reach the COVID-19 Response and Prevention Team in the UW Environmental Health & Safety Department. Email is preferred.

²Follow CDC guidance for [ending self-isolation](#) if your symptoms are not improving and/or you had moderate or severe illness.

³Additional requirements are followed by students in residence halls and athletics programs.

⁴Read the University's [Isolation Guidance](#) for details.

⁵With two sequential negative tests 48 hours apart, you may [remove your mask](#) sooner than day 10.

People who also work in non-UW clinical settings contact their healthcare organization/clinical supervisor for guidance on returning to activities in those locations.

Visit www.ehs.washington.edu/resource/covid-19-public-health-requirements-and-guidance-flowchart-1175 for a text-only version.