

## WHAT IS MODIFIED QUARANTINE?

Under the new guidance from the CDC, universal masking also permits **modified quarantine** practices under certain conditions in K-12 settings, further promoting more instructional time for students.

Quarantine recommendations for unvaccinated students for exposures when both parties were wearing a mask, as required in K-12 indoor settings.

1. When both parties were wearing a mask in any school setting in which students are supervised by school staff (including indoor or outdoor school settings and school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems), unvaccinated students who are close contacts (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet) may undergo a modified quarantine as follows. They may continue to attend school for in-person instruction if they:
  - a. are asymptomatic;
  - b. continue to appropriately mask, as required;
  - c. undergo at least twice weekly testing during quarantine; and
  - d. Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the community setting.
2. Quarantine duration recommendations for unvaccinated **close contacts** in:
  - a. **Standard quarantine** (i.e., students who were not wearing masks or for whom the infected individual was not wearing a mask during the exposure); OR
  - b. **Modified quarantine** (i.e., students as described in #8 above).
  - c. These contacts, if they remain asymptomatic (meaning they have NOT had any symptoms), may discontinue self-quarantine under the following conditions:
    - i. Quarantine can end after Day 10 from the date of last exposure without testing; OR
    - ii. Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a test specimen (i.e., antigen diagnostic test, PCR/molecular diagnostic test, or pooled PCR/molecular test) is collected on or after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative.
  - d. To discontinue quarantine before 14 days following last known exposure, asymptomatic close contacts should:
    - i. Continue daily self-monitoring for symptoms through Day 14 from last known
    - ii. Follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing a mask when around others, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure.
  - e. If any symptoms develop during this 14-day period, the exposed person must immediately isolate, get tested and contact their healthcare provider with any questions regarding their care.