



# ALASKA DOC SUPERVISOR GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19

**EFFECTIVE 12/29/2021**

**For testing questions contact the COVID Hotline at 907-586-6000.**

1. Does the employee have symptoms of COVID-19 including new onset of any of the following:
    - **Fever\***
    - **Muscle/joint aches\***
    - Cough
    - Shortness of breath
    - Chills
    - New loss of taste or smell
    - Diarrhea
    - Fatigue
    - Headache
    - Nausea or vomiting
    - Congestion or runny nose
    - Sore throat
  - If answer is **NO** – Proceed to Question 2
  - If answer is **YES** – Employee will be sent home.
    - Provide the employee with a face covering AND Recommend the employee arrange COVID-19 testing.
    - Let the employee know that they may not return to work until either Return to Work Criteria A or B are met depending on test results.
    - If the symptoms are thought to be from something other than COVID-19, let the employee know this will need to be confirmed by the employee's health care provider or public health, otherwise they may not return to work until negative test results are received and the employee meets Return to Work Criteria B.
    - If an employee who reports symptoms of fever and/or muscle/joint aches AND has received the COVID-19 vaccine or booster within 48 hours may come to/remain at work AS LONG AS the symptoms did not begin until after vaccination. If the symptoms persist beyond 72 hours or if at any point the employee loses his or her sense of taste or smell, the employee must go home immediately and should seek COVID testing.
    - If symptoms developed while on duty, surfaces in their workspace shall be cleaned and disinfected and a list of persons who had close contact with the employee during the time the employee had symptoms and two days prior to symptoms shall be compiled.
2. Within the past 10 days has the **unvaccinated employee** or **employee vaccinated over 6 months ago** without a booster shot been in close contact with any of the following (employees vaccinated under 6 months ago or, if eligible, boosted may skip to #3):
    - Someone who is asymptomatic but has been tested for COVID (including close contacts or those for whom testing is travel related, for a medical procedure, personal choice, etc);
      - If so, the employee may come to work but must leave work immediately if the other person becomes symptomatic or receives positive test results.
    - Someone who has symptoms and is awaiting test results;
      - If so, the employee may not come to work until the other person's test comes back negative.  
NOTE: If the other person has symptoms but does not get tested, the employee may not come back to work for 10 days from the date of last exposure (7 days with a negative test on day 7).
    - Someone who has tested positive for COVID-19?
      - If so, the employee may not come to work until Return-to-Work Criteria C have been met.  
NOTE: CDC recommends testing starting day 2 from the exposure, sooner if symptoms develop.
    - If the employee has **NO CLOSE CONTACTS**, the employee may come to work.
- NOTE: If the employee is named as a close contact but has tested positive within the last 90 days AND the employee has completed the isolation period, the employee is not considered a close contact.

**ACCEPTED TESTING:** Several testing options are now available. Home antigen tests such as Quidel, Binax now and CareStart are accepted for return-to-work criteria unless the employee has symptoms. If symptomatic with a **NEGATIVE** antigen test, a **PCR or NAAT test from a community testing site** is required to meet return-to-work criteria.

3. Within the past 10 days has the employee who has received recommended booster shot been in close contact with any of the following?
- Someone who is asymptomatic but has been tested for COVID (including close contacts or those for whom testing is travel related, for a medical procedure, personal choice, etc);
    - If so, the employee may come to work. If the other person becomes symptomatic or receives positive test results, follow return to work criteria C.
  - Someone who has symptoms and is awaiting test results;
    - If so, the employee may come to work until the other person’s test comes back negative.
    - If the other person receives positive test results, follow return to work criteria C.
  - Someone who has tested positive for COVID-19?
    - If so, the employee may come to work if Return to Work Criteria C have been met.
- NOTE: The CDC recommends testing around day 2 from the last possible exposure, sooner if symptoms develop. This may result in daily testing for a period if the close contact is in the employee’s home.
4. Has the employee been tested for COVID-19 in the last 10 days? If the answer is yes, the employee may not return to work unless:
- The employee was tested as a close contact and has completed a 10-day quarantine, OR
  - The employee was symptomatic and meets the Return-to-Work Criteria A or B, OR
  - The employee was tested as part of an asymptomatic broad-based screening during a contact investigation or as part of a travel requirement AND he or she remains asymptomatic, OR
  - The employee has tested positive AND he or she meets the Return-to-Work Criteria A.
- NOTE: If the employee was required to test due to a non-COVID related medical procedure and the employee is asymptomatic, the employee may come to work.

### RETURN TO WORK CRITERIA A

**For employees with a positive test result or who are symptomatic but do not yet have a test result**

- 1) at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared (or date test performed if no symptoms); AND
- 2) at least 24 hours has passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication; AND
- 3) improvement in cough and shortness of breath (if part of illness).

NOTE: Criteria A converts to Criteria B once a negative test result is received.

### RETURN TO WORK CRITERIA B

**For employees on isolation due to symptoms but who have a negative COVID test result from a community testing site test**

- 1) at least 24 hours has passed since the resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication; AND
- 2) improvement in other symptoms.

### RETURN TO WORK CRITERIA C

**For employees who are on quarantine due to being named a close contact**

- 1) **Are fully vaccinated and, if eligible boosted (i.e., at least two weeks have passed following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or at least 2 weeks has passed following receipt of single-dose vaccine and boosted if vaccine series was completed > 6 months ago) AND have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure; AND agree to COVID testing on days 2 and 5-7 after an exposure; OR**
- 2) at least 10 days (7 days with a negative test) have passed since the last possible contact with a person with lab confirmed COVID; AND
- 3) no symptoms have developed; AND
- 4) negative results have been received if testing occurred.

**PAST POSITIVES:** If the employee tests positive more than once in a 90-day period, the employee may come to work once the initial isolation period has been completed. If the employee tests positive more than once but 90 days has elapsed since the first positive result, the employee may not come to work and must follow applicable return to work criteria.

**ACCEPTED TESTING:** Several testing options are now available. Home antigen tests such as Quidel, Binax now and CareStart are accepted for return-to-work criteria unless the employee has symptoms. If symptomatic with a **NEGATIVE** antigen test, a **PCR or NAAT test from a community testing site** is required to meet return-to-work criteria.