

Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and Department of
Public Health
Frequently Asked Questions, Week of October 25, 2021

1. **As holidays approach, can schools require a negative COVID-19 test prior to a student's return to school?**

No. Testing cannot be required for a student's return to school after holidays or vacations. Individuals are encouraged follow the [recommended travel guidelines set by the CDC](#).

2. **If a student is a close contact quarantining at home, should they receive a daily visual (i.e., over Zoom or Google Classroom) check in?**

Yes. Schools are strongly encouraged to do a daily visual check in with students who are quarantining at home, if they are not eligible for the Test and Stay program or choose not to participate in the Test and Stay Program.

3. **Should schools include asymptomatic, fully vaccinated individuals in the Test and Stay Program?**

No. Schools **may not** test asymptomatic, fully vaccinated individuals as part of the Test and Stay Program. As a reminder, the following categories are exempt from testing and quarantine protocols, as outlined in the [Protocols for Responding to COVID-19](#).

- **Asymptomatic, fully vaccinated individuals**
- **Classroom close contacts:** An individual who is exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual in the classroom while both individuals were masked, so long as the individuals were spaced at least 3 feet apart.
- **Bus close contacts:** An individual who is exposed to COVID-19 positive individual on the bus, while individuals are masked and windows are open
- **Close contacts who have had COVID-19 within the past 90 days:** An individual who has been previously diagnosed with COVID-19 and then becomes a close contact of someone with COVID-19 if
 - i. The exposure occurred within 90 days of the onset of their illness AND
 - ii. the exposed individual is recovered and remains asymptomatic