A person has one or more symptoms associated with COVID-19. Possible symptoms include fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.

Isolate the person pending a final determination as required below.

Is there a documented pre-existing condition that accounts for the symptoms?

YES

NO

COVID-19 test taken after the onset of symptoms (RESULT)?

ANTIGEN

MOLECULAR

NEGATIVE

POSITIVE or not done

Was the person identified as a close contact within the last 14 days?

YES

NO

Was a follow-up molecular test sample (collected within 48 hours) negative?

YES

NO

Can the person provide evidence of a negative diagnostic specimen collected on Day 5 or later?

YES

NO

Is the person able and willing to wear a mask on Days 6 – 10?

YES

NO

1) Stay home until symptoms have improved, typically 24 hours without fever and no use of fever-reducing medicine.
2) Then use the Close Contact and Quarantine Tree to determine when to return to work/class is permitted.

Return on or after Day 6 from onset of symptoms if symptoms are resolving and free of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours. On Days 6-10 wear mask while indoors and when around others outside.

Return on or after Day 11 from onset of symptoms if symptoms have improved, and free of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours.

Return to Work or Class
NOTE: Per revised CDPH guidance, “unvaccinated” includes persons who have previously infected with SARS-CoV-2, including within the last 90 days, and those who are partially vaccinated.

Return on or after Day 11:
- Must wear a mask through Day 10, indoors and around others outdoors.
- Test on Day 5 or 6 highly encouraged.

 Remain at Work:
- Must wear a mask through Day 10, indoors and around others outdoors.
- Test on Day 5 or 6 highly encouraged.

Return on or after Day 6:
- Must provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test collected on day 5 or later
- Must wear a mask through Day 10, indoors and around others outdoors.

Return on or after Day 15
A person has tested positive for COVID-19 and does not have symptoms

Isolate the person pending a final determination as described below

Was the positive result from an antigen or molecular test?

Was a follow-up molecular test sample (collected within 48 hours) negative?

Was the person identified as a close contact in the last 14 days?

Use the Close Contact and Quarantine Tree

Return to Work or Class

Isolate at home for 5 days from the date on which the first sample was collected. Return on or after Day 6 with evidence that a diagnostic sample collected on or after Day 5 is negative. On Days 6-10, a mask must be worn inside and when around others outside. If symptoms develop, isolate immediately and follow the Symptom and Isolation Tree.

The test was negative

The test was positive, not done, or not done within 48 hours.
• These decision trees are subject to change based on current local COVID-19 data and state and federal requirements.
• Expect frequent updates and modifications.

Decision Trees developed by San Diego County Office of Education and Health & Human Services Agency and modified by Mt. San Jacinto Community College District COVID-19 Team.