

# Fact Sheet: When Can I Return to Work After COVID-19?

It depends on whether you tested positive, have symptoms, are suspected of having COVID-19, are fully vaccinated, or are a close contact of someone who tested positive. **This guidance is for non-healthcare personnel.**

## Tested Positive & Symptoms

Employees with positive COVID-19 test and symptoms

Wait at least **5 days** after the symptoms first appeared **AND** wait 24 hours after fever ends and other symptoms have improved. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others for an **additional 5 days**.

## Tested Positive No Symptoms

Employees with no symptoms but tested positive for COVID-19

Wait at least **5 days** after positive test. If remaining symptom-free, continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others for an **additional 5 days**.

If symptoms develop after a positive test, employees can return to work after **at least 5 days** have passed since symptoms first appeared. **AND** at least 24 hours after fever ends and other symptoms have improved. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others for an **additional 5 days**.

## Suspected Symptoms

Employees suspected of having COVID-19 because of symptoms, but who did NOT get tested for COVID-19

Wait until **at least 5 days** have passed since symptoms first appeared **AND** wait 24 hours after fever ends and symptoms have improved. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others for an **additional 5 days**.

## Close Contact

Employees exposed to someone with COVID-19 **do not** have to quarantine **IF**:

- It has been at least 2 weeks since final vaccine dose OR they have had a booster dose OR they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days.
- **And** they do not have COVID-19 symptoms since their exposure.
- **Employees should get tested 5 days after exposure and wear a well-fitting mask indoors for 10 days after exposure. If they develop symptoms, they should get tested and stay home.**

**Employees who are not fully vaccinated, with no symptoms, but a known exposure to a positive COVID-19 person should quarantine for 5 days after last exposure to the infected person and wear a well-fitting mask around other for 5 additional days. If they develop symptoms, they should get tested and stay home.**

