

When can my employee return to work?

For a confirmed positive case:

The employee is expected to isolate. You can expect to have your employee return to work under the following conditions:

1. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared,
2. No fever (temperature above 100.4 F) for 3 full days, without the use of fever reducing medicine, and other symptoms have improved.
3. Employee will receive a clearance letter from the Public Health Department.

For a contact of a confirmed positive case:

The employee is expected to quarantine. You can expect to have your employee return to work under when the individual meets the following criteria:

1. At least 14 days have passed since exposure date,
2. No fever (temperature above 100.4 F) for 3 full days, without the use of fever reducing medicine, and
3. Other symptoms have improved.

Please note: There may be other factors that may extend an employee's return.

Will PHD notify the employer that the employee can work?

The Public Health Department will release the patient from isolation and issue a letter that indicates that the individual may resume regular activities. This letter is provided to the employee, and it's their responsibility to submit to their employer.

Is retesting necessary?

The Public Health Department is not encouraging re-testing after the quarantine period, as long as the individual has met the clearance criteria. Generally, the clearance criteria being used is a time- and symptom-based protocol. Testing kits are limited and are being directed toward identifying new individuals that may be medically vulnerable.

In addition, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is not recommending re-testing due to the prolonged detection of the virus without viability of further infection. The employer may request additional criteria be met prior to an individual returning to work.

