

# COVID-19 Positive Employee Test Notification and Protocol

The new CDC guidance has been issued to include updates to vaccinated individuals who were exposed to COVID-19 after receiving the COVID vaccine. Individuals are not required to quarantine after exposure if they:

- Are fully vaccinated (i.e.  $\geq 14$  days after receiving the second dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine or 14 days after receiving the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine) **and**
- Have remained asymptomatic since the exposure.
- **If all the criteria above is not met, follow the protocol below.**

**Contact within 6 feet of infected individual for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period is known**

Was infected employee wearing a face covering?

No

1. If possible, secure and isolate the contaminated area for 24 hours. After isolation, or if isolation is not possible, call Operations, 742-4OPS, to clean and sanitize the work station and common areas.

2. Send notification [Sample #1] to each employee fitting this situation which will:

A. Advise the employee to quarantine, monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 including checking temperature twice a day, seek guidance from health care provider, and follow instructions from contact tracer and health care provider regarding testing etc.

B. Require regular communication with supervisor.

3. Employees *without* COVID-19 symptoms may return to work after 14 days of quarantine. Asymptomatic employees who are determined to be critical infrastructure personnel may return to work after 10 days of quarantine or 7 days with a negative result received within 48 hours of the anticipated return.

It is the responsibility of the President, Provost, Vice Presidents, and Deans to assure by January 15, the administrators in the organization notify those persons designated as critical infrastructure personnel.

4. Employees *with* COVID-19 symptoms may return to work after:

- 1) At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, **and**
- 2) At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, **and**
- 3) Other symptoms have improved.
- 4) Employee provides both their supervisor and Human Resources  
[hr.leaveadministration@ttu.edu](mailto:hr.leaveadministration@ttu.edu) with a copy of return-to-work clearance letter from TTU  
Student Health Services.

**No Contact within 6 feet of infected individual for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period is known**

Do the following for employees in same building

1. Call Operations, 742-4OPS, to clean and sanitize the work station and common areas.

2. Send notification [Sample #2] to employees in same building, which will:

A. Ask employees to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 including checking temperature twice a day.

B. Advise employees that if they experience symptoms of COVID-19, they should self-isolate, seek guidance from health care provider, and follow instructions from health care provider regarding testing etc.

C. Require regular communication with supervisor.

3. Employees *without* COVID-19 symptoms may continue to work as scheduled.

Please direct questions to Emergency Management at [covid19@ttu.edu](mailto:covid19@ttu.edu)

## **Sample Notifications to Employees**

### **Sample #1**

#### **Employee Tests Positive – Contact within 6 feet of unmasked infected employee for more than 15 minutes is known.**

We were made aware that an employee in \_\_\_\_\_ department recently tested positive for COVID-19 and you have been identified as one who may have had contact within 6 feet of the employee. The CDC and health department protocols including those for contact tracing are being conducted, and you may be contacted by a contact tracer with further instructions. We will have the employee's workstation and the shared common spaces they used cleaned and sanitized and will follow appropriate CDC guidelines to limit further spread and maintain a safe working environment.

We ask that you quarantine, monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 including checking your temperature twice a day, seek guidance from a health care provider, and follow the instructions from your health care provider and the contact tracer regarding testing and treatment.

Please note that you will not be allowed to return to work until you:

- Are symptom free and have quarantined for 14 days, or
- Asymptomatic employees who are determined to be critical infrastructure personnel may return to work after 10 days of quarantine or 7 days with a negative result received within 48 hours of the anticipated return.
- It is the responsibility of the President, Provost, Vice Presidents, and Deans to assure by January 15, the administrators in the organization notify those persons designated as critical infrastructure personnel.

In the event that you have COVID-19 symptoms, you will not be allowed to return to work until after the following:

- 1) At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, **and**
- 2) At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, **and**
- 3) Other symptoms have improved, **and**
- 4) Employee provides both their supervisor and Human Resources [hr.leaveadministration@ttu.edu](mailto:hr.leaveadministration@ttu.edu) with a copy of return-to-work clearance letter from TTU Student Health Services.

For questions with regard to leave that may be applicable to your absence from work, please contact the department of human resources.

Please remain in regular communication with your supervisor and let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We will continue to monitor this situation and provide support and updates as necessary. Your health and the health of the University community remain our top priority.

### **Sample #2**

#### **Employee in Building Tests Positive – No Contact within 6 feet of unmasked infected employee for more than 15 minutes is known.**

We were made aware that an employee in \_\_\_\_\_ department [List building location if large building] recently tested positive for COVID-19. The CDC and health department protocols including those for contact tracing are being conducted and you may be contacted by a contact tracer with further instructions. We will have the employee's workstation and the shared common spaces they used cleaned and sanitized and will follow appropriate CDC guidelines to limit further spread and maintain a safe working environment.

Out of an abundance of caution, we wanted to provide you this notification. You should continue to report to work during your regular schedule; however, we ask that you monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 including checking your temperature twice a day.

If you experience symptoms of COVID-19, you should self-isolate, seek guidance from a health care provider, and follow instructions from your health care provider regarding testing and treatment.

Please remain in regular communication with your supervisor and let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We will continue to monitor this situation and provide support and updates as necessary. Your health and the health of the University community remain our top priority.

### **Sample #3**

#### **An individual in employee's household tests positive.**

We were made aware that an employee in \_\_\_\_\_ department [List building location if large building] may have been exposed to a known COVID-19 case. The CDC and health department protocols including those for contact tracing are being conducted and you may be contacted by a contact tracer with further instructions.

Out of an abundance of caution, we wanted to provide you this notification. You should continue to report to work during your regular schedule; however, we ask that you monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 including checking your temperature twice a day.

If you experience symptoms of COVID-19, you should self-isolate, seek guidance from a health care provider, and follow instructions from your health care provider regarding testing and treatment.

Please remain in regular communication with your supervisor and let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We will continue to monitor this situation and provide support and updates as necessary. Your health and the health of the University community remain our top priority.