CCHD

COLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Serving Cole County Since 1916

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

COVID-19 in Businesses

There has been a positive COVID-19 case in my place of business. What should I do next?

- First, don't panic. In most cases, you do not need to shut down your facility. Consider closing off any areas used for prolonged periods of time by the sick person until you have cleaned and disinfected frequently used surfaces.
- Determine which employees may have had close contact with the positive COVID-19 case and notify those individuals of their exposure. The identity of the COVID-19 case should remain confidential.

Who Should I Identify As a Close Contact?

Starting 48 hours before symptom onset or, in the absence of symptoms, 48 hours before the test was collected:
- Someone who was within 6 feet of the positive COVID-19 case for a total of 15 minutes or more, regardless of cloth face covering.
- Someone who had higher risk of exposure such as someone they kissed, shared eating utensils with, and/or sneezed or coughed on.
- CCHD will be available for consultation if questions arise or documentation is required.

I have identified close contacts. I should advise them to :

1. Stay home and distance from others for 14 days from last date of close contact.
2. Don't go to work, school, or visit with others outside their home.

Is the contact:

Having Symptoms

Not Having Symptoms

They should stay home and distance from others for 14 days from last date of close contact with the positive COVID-19 case.
If they become ill, they should reach out to their primary care physician or local urgent care.

Have Tested Positive
They should follow the guidance for positive COVID-19 cases provided by their physician and/or available at colehealth.org.

Have Tested Negative
They should continue to stay home and distance from others for 14 days from last date of close contact with the positive COVID-19 case.

If they choose not to get tested
They should stay home and distance from others until:
1. 10 days have passed since their symptoms started.   **AND**
2. 24 hours after their fever is gone without using medication.   **AND**
3. Other symptoms have improved.

OR

They should stay home and distance from others for 14 days from last date of close contact with the positive COVID-19 case; whichever date is later.

Critical Infrastructure Guidelines

To ensure continuity of operations of essential functions, CDC advises that critical infrastructure workers may be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to COVID-19, provided they remain asymptomatic and additional precautions are implemented to protect them and the community. If you choose to allow asymptomatic contacts back into your workplace they should adhere to the following:

- Pre-Screen: Employers should measure the employee's temperature and assess symptoms prior to them starting work and throughout the workday. Ideally, temperature checks should happen before the individual enters the facility.
- Regular Monitoring: As long as the employee doesn't have a temperature or symptoms, they may continue to work under the supervision of their employer's occupational health program.
- Wear a Mask: The employee should wear a face mask (preferably surgical) at all times while in the workplace for 14 days after last close contact with the positive COVID-19 case.
- Social Distance: The employee should maintain 6 feet and practice social distancing as work duties permit in the workplace.
- Disinfect and Clean work spaces: Clean and disinfect all areas such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment routinely.
- **If the employee becomes sick during the day, they should be sent home immediately. Surfaces in their workplace should be cleaned and disinfected.**