

Hello Education Partners,

There have been a number of questions about what happens if a staff member or child tests positive for Covid-19 at a child care program. I thought it might be helpful to review the process and available guidance.

As Covid-19 is a reportable communicable disease, please notify the health department if a child or staff tests positive for Covid-19 through a PCR test. Reporting assists us in tracking and slowing the spread of COVID-19. You can do this two ways:

1. Call or email me with the information 520-247-1415
2. Call the Epidemiology department 520-724-7797

I (or someone from epidemiology) will ask questions about the individual. This includes (we realize you may not have the complete information):

- Name of child care/contact information:
- Date of test:
- Date of positive test result:
- Onset of Symptoms:
- Duration of illness (days):
- Hospitalized?
- Last day at child care program:
- Age group/assigned classroom:
- Name of staff/child:

If you have called epidemiology, they will send your information to me to follow up with questions and guidance. I will review what procedures you already have in place for screening protocols, cleaning/disinfecting, physical distancing, etc. Many child care programs are already implementing many of the recommendations by the CDC and ADHS. I will also review guidance from the CDC and ADHS as is applicable, which includes the following:

As is feasible, follow CDC [School](#) and [Child Care](#) and [ADHS](#) Guidance, including:

- o Post information on COVID-19 from the CDC: [CDC posters](#) and [PCHD entrance poster](#)
- o Monitor all staff and children for symptoms following [CDC Child Care Screening Protocols](#)
- o Recommend contacting a health care provider or call 1-844-542-8201 as applicable or post this information (maintain confidentiality of the individual who tested positive). Please be aware that individuals being tested may be required to self-isolate until they receive their test results. This may cause staff shortages which would need to be addressed.
- o **Staff Members and Children who have tested positive**
 - **ADHS:** If staff have tested positive for COVID-19, they should remain under home isolation precautions for 7 days from specimen collection OR until 72 hours after fever is gone and symptoms of acute infection resolve, whichever is longer. (CDC now says 10 days from onset of symptoms)
- o **Cleaning/Sanitation for staff/children who have tested positive at a site:**
 - o **ADHS:** Cleaning staff should clean and disinfect all areas (e.g., offices, bathrooms, and common areas) used by the ill persons, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.

- **CDC:**
 - Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
 - Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.
 - Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before you clean or disinfect to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.
 - Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas.

At this time, it is your decision as to what guidelines are best for your site and circumstances. The above information and links are for the current guidance available. Please note that this could be updated at any time as new information becomes available.

I will then send a follow up email with the information that was discussed along with a sample Parent Alert notice in English and Spanish to post at your site and/or send to parents, staff, and volunteers. If you have additional cases at your site, please notify the health department again.

If you have any questions about the reporting process or guidance, please let me know.

Stay well,

Emily Rebro, MSN, RN
Child Care Liaison
Pima County Health Department

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A Healthy Pima County
Everyone. Everywhere. Every day.