

SCCPSS NEW Respiratory Virus Guidance (COVID-19, FLU, RSV) for Employees and Students

Per the CDC and Georgia DPH Updated Respiratory Virus Guidance

Symptoms of a Respiratory Virus and/or Positive Test for COVID-19, FLU, or RSV	Returning to School or Work after Symptoms of and/or Testing Positive for COVID-19, FLU, or RSV	Positive Test for COVID-19 or other Respiratory Viruses Without Symptoms
<p>Stay home when you experience *symptoms of respiratory illness and/or test positive for COVID-19/Influenza or other Respiratory Viruses.</p> <p>You can go back to your normal activities (return to work and school) when, for at least 24 hours, both are true:</p> <p>Your symptoms are getting better overall, AND</p> <p>You have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication).</p> <p>*Symptoms of Respiratory Viruses include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cough Shortness of breath Difficulty breathing Chest discomfort Wheezing New loss of taste or smell Fever (100.4° or higher) Chills Muscle aches Fatigue Headache Sore throat Nausea or vomiting Decrease in appetite Diarrhea Congestion or runny nose 	<p>When you go back to your normal activities (return to work and school), take **added precautions over the next 5 days, such as taking additional steps for cleaner air, personal hygiene, masks, physical distancing, and/or testing when you will be around other people indoors.</p> <p>Keep in mind that you may still be able to spread the virus that made you sick, even if you are feeling better. You are likely to be less contagious at this time, depending on factors like how long you were sick or how sick you were.</p> <p>If you develop a fever or start to feel worse after you have gone back to normal activities, stay home and away from others again until, for at least 24 hours, both are true: your symptoms are improving overall, and you have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication). Then take added precaution for the next 5 days.</p>	<p>If you never had symptoms but tested positive for COVID-19 or other respiratory viruses you may be contagious. For the next 5 days: take **added precautions, such as taking additional steps for cleaner air, personal hygiene, masks, physical distancing, and/or testing when you will be around other people indoors. This is especially important to protect people with factors that increase their risk of severe illness from respiratory viruses.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**Recommended Added Precautions:</p> <p>Cleaner air-bringing in fresh outside air, purifying indoor air, or gathering outdoors. Virus particles do not build up in the air outdoors as much as they do indoors.</p> <p>Hygiene-Cover your coughs and sneezes with tissue or cough/sneeze into elbow and not your hands, handwashing frequently or using a hand sanitizer, clean frequently touched surfaces regularly.</p> <p>Masks- Better fitting masks are recommended such as a N95 or KN95 mask.</p> <p>Physical distancing- putting physical distance between yourself and others. There is no single number that defines a “safe” distance, since spread of virus depends on many factors.</p> <p>Testing-Antigen tests can be used for screening before gathering with others. However, false negatives are possible; false positives are uncommon.</p> <p>Keep in mind that the precautions listed above can be helpful to reduce risk if you have been exposed to COVID-19.</p>

Additional Employee SCCPSS Guidance

The regular SCCPSS employee absence policy applies to COVID-19 going forward, and due to the CDC/GA DPH ending mandatory isolation days, Teleworking/Telelearning are no longer available for COVID-19. When an employee misses 3 or more workdays, they are required to provide a return-to-work recommendation from their healthcare provider for their continued absence to be excused. COVID-19 test results are no longer required to be provided to your Supervisor. Following the CDC Respiratory Virus Guidance above is the responsibility of Employees and Parents/Guardians.