

COVID-19 IN THE CLASSROOM

An instructor guide for understanding what happens when a student is diagnosed with COVID-19 or identified as a close contact*.

Tests Positive

Isolate

The student will be instructed by medical professionals to isolate for 10 days from their test date. The [CDC](#) offers the following guidance to complete the isolation process.

Case Investigation

U-M's Environment, Health & Safety team or Washtenaw County Health Department will perform case investigation to determine the case's close contacts* and notify them directly about their exposure, instruct them to quarantine and watch for development of symptoms.

Notification

If the student diagnosed with COVID-19 attended class in person, a classroom notification will be sent by U-M officials to the class roster for general awareness. No action is required for those receiving a classroom notification as the majority of classes were set up to avoid close contact. Anyone with close contact* will be notified through contact tracing.

Return to Class

The student can return to class 10 days from the date of their positive test so long as fever has resolved and other symptoms are improving.

CONFIRMED as a Close Contact* (through case investigation or contact tracing)

Quarantine

The student will be instructed by U-M's Environment, Health & Safety or Washtenaw County Health Department to quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure as determined as part of case investigation. The [CDC](#) offers the following guidance to complete the quarantine process.

If Symptoms Develop

The student should isolate and seek evaluation immediately through [University Health Service](#).

No Notification

Classroom notifications DO NOT occur for situations involving students confirmed as close contacts who attended in-person class (these individuals have not been diagnosed with COVID-19).

Return to Class

The student can return to class following the 14-day period of quarantine, unless symptoms develop. Students should then be evaluated at UHS, and follow appropriate guidance.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Provide academic support during student's isolation/quarantine period.
- Help direct your student to U-M resources ([UHS](#), [DOS](#), [SSD](#), [CAPS](#)).
- **DO NOT** send notifications to the class roster; these will be sent as described above.
- Check out the COVID in the Classroom FAQ here: campusblueprint.umich.edu/faqs#classroom.
- For additional questions, check in with your unit, department or school leadership, or call the COVID-19 Hotline at 734-936-7000 to reach U-M resources and support during the pandemic.

*Close contact is determined by WCHD or EHS as part of a case investigation, and is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of a case for a total of 15 minutes or more in 24 hours starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic cases, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection).