

# Return to Learn: guidance following a positive COVID-19 Symptom Screen (R2)

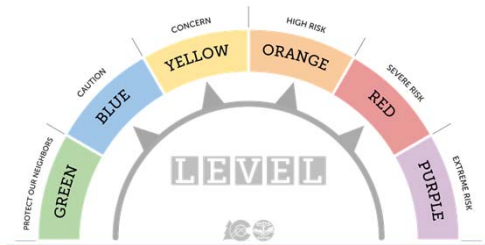


This decision tool is **NOT** intended for cases or close contacts of COVID-19.

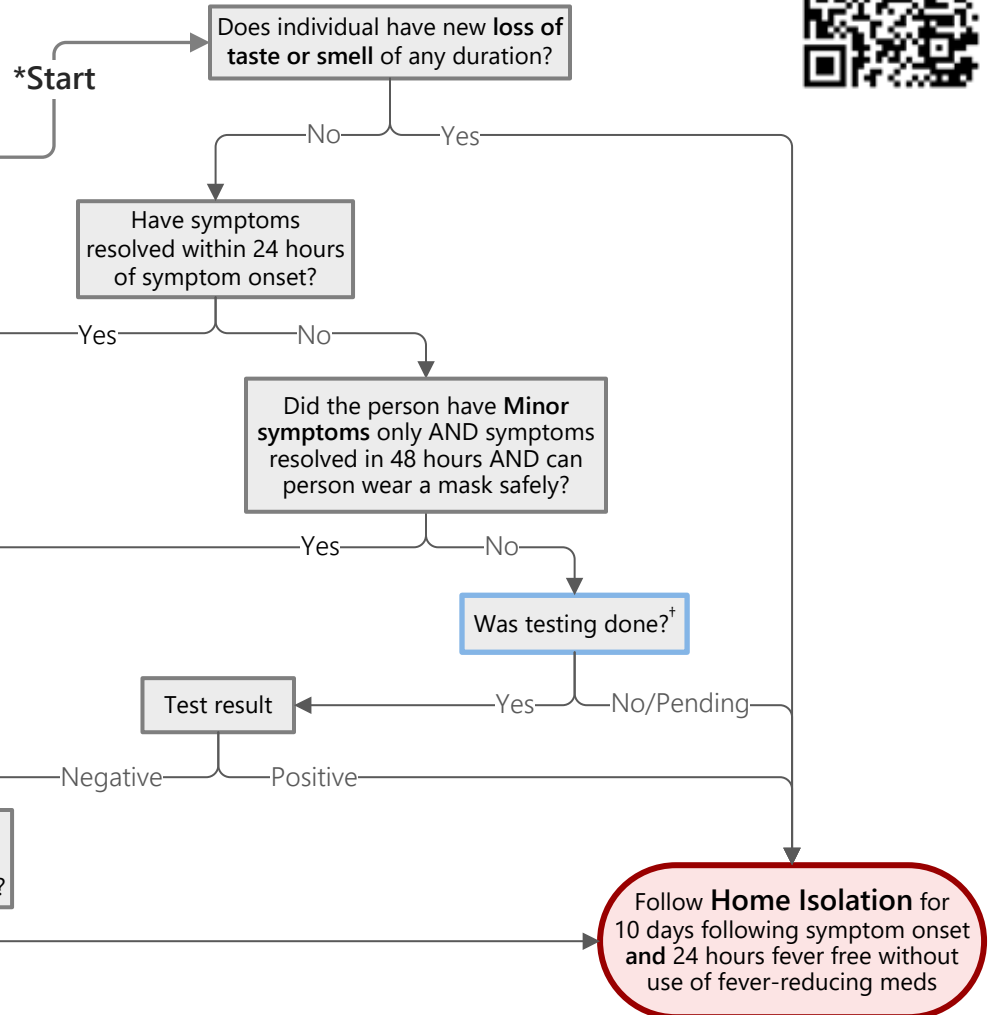
A confirmed COVID-19 case or close contact should follow public health isolation or quarantine instructions for return to school/work. *No test result can end an individual's [isolation or quarantine](#) period early.*

**\*All students/staff with symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested as soon as possible.**

To request assistance or provide feedback:  
<https://tinyurl.com/COP12Feedback>



For use in communities in Levels Blue, Yellow, Orange and Red



† Recommended tests: PCR, qualitative PCR like Curative, or molecular tests like Abbott ID NOW. Recommended tests do not require confirmatory testing. PCR is considered the gold standard test and is preferred when available. Antigen Point of Care (POC) or rapid tests, like BinaxNOW, almost always require confirmatory PCR for negative results.\*\* All positive results are considered cases and do not require confirmatory testing.

Critical Symptom	Major Symptoms	Minor Symptoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of taste or smell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4°F or greater</li> <li>New or worsening cough</li> <li>Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sore throat</li> <li>Runny nose or congestion</li> <li>Muscle or body aches</li> <li>Headache</li> <li>Fatigue</li> <li>Nausea, vomiting</li> <li>Diarrhea</li> </ul>

\*\*If **all** of the following conditions are met, confirmation of a negative antigen test with PCR is not needed (in all other circumstances, a negative must be confirmed with PCR.)

- No known exposure to a person with known or suspected COVID-19 (or part of an outbreak)
- No travel to an area with high incidence of COVID-19
- Lives/works/attends school in a community with 2-week incidence <50 cases per 100,000 (this information can be located at <https://covid19.colorado.gov/data> under Incidence and Epi Curves)
- Experiencing minor symptoms only (sore throat, runny nose or congestion, muscle or body aches, headache, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea)