Austin Public Health Guidance for Child Care Programs

Individual has COVID-like symptoms, has a laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19, or is a close contact*

1. Isolate

Isolate individual with symptoms; provide adult supervision to children.

Arrange Transportation

Arrange transportation for person to home or to a healthcare facility, depending on severity of symptoms.

Advise individual to:

- Quarantine and follow guidance on page 2 on when it is safe to return to child care or camp.
- Ask their provider about testing. Those with insurance should contact their physician's office or insurer directly for testing referrals and private options. Others can register for a free COVID-19 test through Austin Public Health at www.austintexas.gov/covid19.

2. Identify

Identify individuals who had close contact* with the COVID-19 infected person. Keep those individuals separated from others.

Notify

Notify staff and families of the potential COVID-19 exposure. Follow all privacy guidelines.

3. Clean

Close off areas used by the sick individual and do not use again before cleaning and disinfecting. Wait 24 hours, or as long as possible, before cleaning and disinfecting those areas in accordance with CDC recommendations.

4. Notify Austin Public Health

Call APH Nurse Line at 512-972-5560 to report positive cases of COVID-19 among children and/or staff.

Follow APH guidance on next steps

APH staff will provide situation-specific guidance. APH may advise closures of classrooms or centers upon notification of one or more positive COVID-19 cases within the program. Closures could range from 2-5 days, and possibly longer, depending on specific circumstances. APH will advise on steps to take before reopening.

Quarantine

Advise close contacts to quarantine, monitor for the development of symptoms, and follow return-to-care guidance on page 2.

* A CLOSE CONTACT IS anyone who was within 6 feet of a COVID-19 infected person for at least 15 minutes, during the 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the sick person begins isolation.





When can an individual return to a child care program?





