Legal Authority: IC 16-41-2-1

Statutes Affected: IC 16-41-2

The specific control measures for COVID-19 (infectious agent: SARS-CoV-2 virus) are as follows:

(1) Every laboratory-confirmed case of COVID-19 shall be reported to the local health officer and Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) within twenty-four (24) hours according to State Health Commissioner’s Order #CO-21-01.

(2) Individuals who test positive should notify their close contacts of potential exposure. Close contacts, defined as any individual within 6 feet of an infected person (laboratory confirmed or probable case) for a total of 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period, should be notified and then quarantine as recommended.

(3) For any confirmed case of COVID-19 in a congregate setting, including schools, preschools, daycare settings, long-term care facilities, jails, correctional facilities, and group-living facilities, an investigation shall be performed to ascertain the following:

   A. Name and contact information for school, preschool, or daycare attended, or any congregate living setting, such as a long-term care facility, jail, correctional facility, or group-living facility.

   B. Close contacts, defined as any individual within 6 feet of an infected person (laboratory confirmed or probable case) for a total of 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period, should be notified and then quarantine as recommended.

(4) Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 shall isolate, including exclusion from school, preschools, daycare settings, employment, and public places, for at least 5 days following the onset of symptoms or, if asymptomatic, at least 5 days from the date of collection of the positive test. Following the 5-day isolation period, the individual must wear a mask when around others for an additional 5 days. Before discontinuing isolation, an individual must be at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medications and having symptoms improve.

(5) Except as provided below, asymptomatic individuals who are identified as a close contact of a COVID-19 case shall quarantine, including exclusion from preschools, daycare settings, employment and public places, for 5 days from the date of last exposure and should wear a mask when around others for an additional 5 days.

Asymptomatic individuals identified as a close contact of a COVID-19 case who are fully vaccinated (including a booster if eligible) or recovered from COVID-19 infection within the last 90 days are not required to quarantine but should wear a mask when around others for 10 days from the date of exposure. Schools may choose to allow 12-17 year-olds who are fully vaccinated and who have not yet received a booster to attend school.

All individuals identified as close contacts should continue to monitor for symptoms and, if possible, test 5 days after exposure. If symptoms develop, the individual should isolate and test. If positive, follow isolation guidance.
(6) For K-12 schools that have and consistently enforce a face covering requirement for children, students, teachers, staff and others present, the following quarantine protocols apply:

A. When an asymptomatic close contact is exposed during the school day, quarantine is not required, regardless of vaccination status, and the individual may continue to attend school, including extracurricular activities, as long as masking continues. (An exception to continuous masking is allowed only during strenuous physical activity or active performance in extracurricular activity when masking cannot be done safely.)

B. When an asymptomatic close contact is exposed outside the classroom:

1. Individuals who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated shall quarantine at home for 5 days and not participate in extracurricular activities. If asymptomatic, the individual may return on day 6 as long as masking continues at all times when around others.

2. Individuals who are fully vaccinated, including booster dose if eligible, may continue to attend school, including extracurricular activities, as long as masking continues. (An exception to continuous masking allowed only during strenuous physical activity or active performance in extracurricular activity when masking cannot be done safely). Schools may choose to allow 12-17 year-olds who are fully vaccinated and who have not yet received a booster to attend school.

Close contacts, regardless of vaccination status or where the exposure occurred, should test on day 5 after exposure, if possible, and should monitor daily for symptoms of COVID-19. Any symptoms of COVID-19 must prompt immediate removal of the symptomatic individual from the school environment. The individual should seek testing and isolate. If positive, follow isolation guidance. If negative, return to school when symptoms have resolved.

(7) For K-12 schools that do not have a face covering requirement for children, students, teachers, staff and others present, the following quarantine protocols apply when an asymptomatic close contact is identified:

A. Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals shall quarantine at home for 5 days and not participate in extracurricular activities. If asymptomatic, the individual may return on day 6 and wear a mask for days 6-10 at all times when around others.

B. Fully vaccinated (with a booster dose, if eligible) individuals may continue to attend school, including extracurricular activities, as long as the individual wears a mask for 10 days. (An exception to continuous masking allowed only during strenuous physical activity or active performance in extracurricular activity). Schools may choose to allow 12-17 year-olds who are fully vaccinated and who have not yet received a booster to attend school.

Close contacts, regardless of vaccination status or where the exposure occurred, should test on day 5 after exposure, if possible, and should monitor daily for symptoms of COVID-19. Any symptoms of COVID-19 must prompt immediate removal of the symptomatic individual from the school environment. The individual should seek testing and isolate. If positive, follow isolation guidance. If negative, return to school when symptoms have resolved.
(8) Outbreak control measures. An outbreak of COVID-19 in a non-residential, non-healthcare setting is defined as two (2) or more laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases that are epidemiologically linked, with onset of illness within a ten (10) day period. The cases may be linked by affiliation or attendance at the same school, facility, or workplace. To reach the outbreak threshold, the cases must reside in at least two (2) different households.

A. Vaccination and disease history for COVID-19 shall be obtained for both cases and close contacts in outbreak investigations except in K-12 classrooms with all students and staff masked.

B. For outbreak control in public or private schools, daycare settings, preschools, or postsecondary facilities, on the same day that a report of a confirmed COVID-19 case is received, school personnel shall do the following:

1. Conduct an inquiry into absenteeism to determine the existence of any other cases of the illness.
2. Immediately report the confirmed case or cases to the local health department and the IDOH.
3. Should notify each student, attendee, or employee who is required to isolate or quarantine that the student, attendee, or employee shall be excluded from the date of notification until the appropriate isolation or quarantine period has ended. Individuals who are quarantined should be instructed on daily monitoring and reporting of symptoms should they occur. Students, attendees, or employees who are fully vaccinated, including booster if eligible, or have recovered from a COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days, and are asymptomatic are not required to quarantine. Schools may choose to allow 12-17 year-olds who are fully vaccinated and who have not yet received a booster to attend school.
4. Should notify each student, attendee, or employee who has been identified as a close contact but allowed to remain in school based on (6) above to monitor for symptoms daily and report symptoms should they occur.

(11) For outbreak control in health care settings, all health care workers and employees who have been exposed to COVID-19 should be excluded from the facility, unless fully vaccinated (including booster if eligible), or recovered from a COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days, until the appropriate quarantine or isolation period has ended, or unless otherwise directed by state or federal guidance.

(12) For outbreak control in congregate living settings, such as long-term care facilities, jails, correctional facilities, or group-living facilities, all workers and employees who have been exposed to COVID-19 should be excluded from the facility, unless fully vaccinated (including a booster if eligible), or recovered from a COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days, until the appropriate quarantine or isolation period has ended, or unless otherwise directed by state or federal guidance.

(13) COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to all healthy, eligible individuals without medical contraindications. Providers must obtain consent from a parent or guardian for any individual under age 18 who is eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
(14) Individuals with suspected “break-through” disease should be investigated and managed as a confirmed COVID-19 case.

(15) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists set the standard clinical and laboratory case definition. 