



Updated March 15, 2022

(Updates to close contact reporting requirements)

**PIMA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
SANITARY MEASURE 2021-01
(*Slowing the Spread of COVID-19 in Schools*)**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization officially declared a pandemic due to COVID-19 on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, prompt detection of cases and their close contacts, followed by rapid implementation of infection control measures, is necessary to control the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Pima County Health Department has identified an accelerated transmission of COVID-19 throughout Pima County, including the increasing presence of the much more transmissible Delta and Omicron variants; and

WHEREAS, any surge in cases will disproportionately impact unvaccinated people; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Emergency Measure 2022-01, administrators of schools must submit a report to the local health department within 24 hours of the identification of a suspected outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-624, a county health department may adopt quarantine and sanitary measures to prevent the spread of an infectious or contagious disease within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-630, any person who violates such a measure is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. All schools within the jurisdiction of Pima County will report all positive cases of COVID- 19 to the Pima County Health Department.
2. Once identified, all known or suspected cases will be sent home as soon as possible.

3. Individuals who are confirmed cases must isolate for five days regardless of vaccination status. Release from isolation may occur on day six as long as the individual's symptoms are improving, they are without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, and they continue masking around others for an additional five days. If symptoms have not improved or resolved, then isolation will be extended until the individual meets the [end of isolation criteria](#).

4. Individuals identified as close contacts, and have not completed the primary COVID-19 vaccine series, or are unvaccinated, must remain at home and be excluded from school and extra-curricular activities for five days. On day five after their exposure to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the close contact is encouraged to test for COVID-19, if testing is available. Those who remain asymptomatic may return on day six, but must mask around others for an additional five days. K-12 students and staff have an alternative to at-home quarantine through participating in PCHD's Test Mask Stay (TMS) program. The ability to participate relies on their school's participation and guardian consent.

5. Individuals identified as close contacts, and have been boosted, or completed the primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine, or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days, will not be excluded from school. The close contact is encouraged to test for COVID-19 on day five after their exposure to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, if testing is available, and must continue to mask for a minimum of ten days. Those who had tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days are exempt from testing on day five.

ORDERED ON THIS 15th DAY OF MARCH, 2022



BY THERESA CULLEN, M.D.
DIRECTOR, PIMA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT