

Mask to Stay / Test to Play School FAQs

This document is intended as a supplement to the current quarantine guidance and addresses further clarification from the Ohio Department of Health as well as questions asked by local school systems.

- **Are individuals with an approved mask exemption eligible for the M2S/T2P protocols?**
 - No, these individuals would be excluded from school following the traditional quarantine guidance (as they would be with any other infectious disease) to ensure the health and safety of the student and their classmates.
 - ***Any individuals who cannot wear a mask consistently due to medical or age-related reasons must isolate/quarantine at home for a minimum of 10 days.***

- **Which extracurricular activities need to use the T2P criteria for exposed individuals to participate?**

1/12/22 Update:

 - ODH has reaffirmed that activities such as band, choir, and theater along with sports are considered an increased risk for spread.
 - All extracurricular activities that create an increased risk of viral spread due to forceful exhalations during physical activity, or the removal of well-fitting face coverings/minimal distance between participants must follow the Test to Play criteria for continued participation during the quarantine period.
 - **However**, students who can remain masked during an extracurricular activity (especially those that occur in a class-room like setting) can continue to participate under the Mask to Stay guidance.
 - E.g. if an individual can participate in a choir or theater class/rehearsal while wearing a face covering and distancing from others, they may continue to participate during their quarantine period as long as they remain without symptoms.

- **Are individuals who are exposed at a "school-sanctioned" activity that takes place in the community eligible for M2S/T2P?**
 - Any school sponsored activity that is facilitated and monitored by the school would meet the criteria to use M2S/T2P.
 - The best practice to use for functions outside of the controlled school environment would be to limit the number of unrelated/public individuals who attend/are in close proximity to students and staff, and require other mitigation strategies (masking, distance, etc.)

- **If a fully vaccinated student has an exposure at home due to a positive sibling or parent, are they eligible for M2S/T2P?**
 - Yes. Fully vaccinated students can still attend school under previous quarantine guidance and participate in sports/extracurricular activities as long as they mask in accordance with the M2S/T2P criteria and remain symptom free.
 - It is recommend that fully vaccinated exposures get tested on day 5-7 after exposure to reduce the risk of asymptomatic spread. This recommendation is separate from Test to Play criteria.

- **Do fully vaccinated individuals or those who tested positive in the past 90 days need to follow T2P to participate in extracurricular activities?**
 - Fully vaccinated individuals and individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 less than 90 days before their most recent exposure ***are not required*** to be tested upon initial notification of exposure to participate in extracurricular activities during their quarantine period.
 - These individuals ***do*** still need to mask to the greatest extent possible during extracurricular activities including anytime a mask will not interfere with breathing, the activity, or create a safety hazard.
 - Anyone who develops symptoms after an exposure, no matter their vaccination status or recent infection status, must isolate.

- **In an individual recently tested positive (<90 days ago) and develops symptoms following a new exposure, what course of action should be taken?**
 - Isolate for a minimum of 5 days from onset of symptoms (day zero) and until symptoms have resolved;
 - OR**
 - Isolate until they can consult their physician - if the physician rules out COVID with a specific alternative diagnosis, they can return to school and extracurricular activities based on diagnosis.

- **If a student has an additional exposure, do they need another test to keep participating in T2P?**
 - Yes. The testing for T2P should be based on the most recent exposure and extended as needed if additional school exposures occur during the quarantine period.