

Updated DHS COVID Isolation Guidance

A. When a client tests positive for COVID-19, with or without symptoms:

- **Single Adult shelter and Safe Haven clients:**
 - Must isolate for at least 5 days past the date they test positive, off-site at the designated isolation facility.
- **All other clients (Adult Families, Families with Children):**
 - Must isolate in their unit for at least 5 days past the date they test positive.
- Clients who are required to isolate must do so regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status.
- A positive test is defined as:
 - A laboratory-confirmed positive test taken at a medical facility and reported to DOHMH, who shares the test results with DHS.
 - A documented positive test shared by the client.
 - A positive test result from a self-administered rapid antigen test (“home test”) done at the facility.

B. Duration of isolation and precautions:

- **All clients must isolate for 5 days past the date they test positive.**
- Clients may end isolation if both of the following are true for at least 24 hours and 5 days have past:
 - Symptoms are improving overall, **and**
 - They do not have a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication)
 - If the client still has a fever and/or symptoms are not improving, they should isolate until symptoms improve and they are fever-free for 24hrs (without fever-reducing medications)
- When ending isolation and returning to normal activities, clients should take the following precautions over the next 5 days (10 days in total of isolation and precautions):
 - Wearing a well-fitting mask around others
 - Maintaining physical distance from others who are not sick
 - Regularly washing hands with soap and water, or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
 - Opening windows for ventilation or moving activities outdoors, when possible