



## Advocates' COVID-19 Return to In-Person Work/Services Guidance

Effective 1/22/2022

Advocates' COVID-19 Return to Work/Services Guidance is an agency safety measure intended to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community while prioritizing the health and safety of our employees and the people and families that we support. This is adapted for the Advocates workforce from guidance issued by OPWDD/Department of Health on 1/22/21 and revised on 9/9/2021, 12/28/2021, 1/6/22 and 1/13/22.

### Definitions:

- **Eligible for Booster** - [click here for full criteria for all ages.](#)

**Those over 18 years old are eligible for booster 5 months after completion of Pfizer or Moderna initial series, 2 months after J&J initial series.**

- **Boosted** - For employees to be considered “boosted”, proof of booster shot must be on file with Advocates Human Resources (Image of employee's booster card can be submitted to HR via [hrsecure@advocatesincorporated.org](mailto:hrsecure@advocatesincorporated.org) or via postal mail).
- **Fully Vaccinated** – is defined as being 2 or more weeks after the final dose of the vaccine (initial series) approved by the FDA or authorized by the FDA for emergency use or listed by the World Health Organization. **For employees to be considered “fully vaccinated”, proof of vaccination must be on file with Advocates Human Resources** (Image of employee's vaccination card can be submitted to HR via [hrsecure@advocatesincorporated.org](mailto:hrsecure@advocatesincorporated.org) or via postal mail).
- **Confirmed/Positive** – Person has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 10 days.
- **Direct Exposure** – Defined as having had close contact with another person with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 within a 24-hour period.
- **Recently Recovered** - is defined as 1) having recovered from COVID-19 (laboratory-confirmed by a viral/PCR test) by meeting the criteria for discontinuation of isolation and 2) within the 3-month period between the date of exposure and either initial onset of symptoms related to COVID-19 infection (**laboratory-confirmed by a viral/PCR test**) or, if asymptomatic during the illness, the date of the laboratory test and 3) asymptomatic.

If person has tested positive for COVID-19

	<p><b>Tested Positive Asymptomatic</b></p> <p>(Regardless of vaccination/recently recovered status)</p>	<p><b>Tested Positive Experiencing Symptoms</b></p> <p>(Regardless of vaccination/recently recovered status)</p>	<p><b>Immunocompromised Or Hospitalized for COVID-19</b></p>
<p><b>Guidance</b></p>	<p>May not provide/receive in-person services for 5 days (day 0 is the day the test was collected).</p> <p><b>If still asymptomatic after 5 days:</b> May return in-person on day 6 if asymptomatic (fever-free for 24-hours without fever-reducing medication) And if able to wear a well-fitting mask days 6-10.</p> <p>If symptoms develop after testing positive, call back (guidance will then be “tested positive, experiencing symptoms”).</p>	<p>May not provide/receive in-person services for a minimum of 5 days (day 0 is the day symptoms start).</p> <p><b>If no longer experiencing symptoms after 5 days:</b> May return in-person on day 6 if no longer experiencing symptoms (fever-free for 24-hours without fever-reducing medication) And if able to wear a well-fitting mask days 6-10.</p> <p><b>If still experiencing symptoms after 5 days:</b> Please notify the person you work with. May not provide/receive in-person services until no longer experiencing symptoms or for 10 days, whichever is sooner.</p>	<p>10 - 20 days, consult healthcare provider</p>
<p><b>Additional information</b></p>	<p>Per DOH guidance, must continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days after leaving isolation.</p>	<p>Loss of taste or smell may persist and should not delay return to in-person services.</p> <p>Per DOH guidance, must continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days after leaving isolation.</p>	

If person has a **direct exposure** to COVID-19 and is **experiencing symptoms**:

	<b>Direct Exposure Experiencing Symptoms</b>  (Regardless of vaccination/recently recovered status)	<b>Immunocompromised Or Hospitalized for COVID-19</b>
<b>Guidance</b>	May not provide/receive in-person services for a minimum of 5 days (day zero is the day symptoms start).  May return in-person after day 5 if no longer experiencing symptoms (fever-free for 24-hours without fever-reducing medication).	10 - 20 days, consult healthcare provider

If person has a **direct exposure** to COVID-19 and is **Asymptomatic**:

	<b>Fully Vaccinated And Boosted</b>	<b>Fully Vaccinated, Not Yet Eligible for Booster</b>	<b>Fully Vaccinated, Eligible for Booster but Not Yet Boosted</b>	<b>Not Fully Vaccinated</b>	<b>Recovered from COVID-19 within the past 3 months</b>
<b>Guidance</b>	May continue to provide/receive in-person services.	May continue to provide/receive in-person services.	May not provide/receive in-person services for 5 days.	May not provide/receive in-person services for 5 days.	May continue to provide/receive in-person services.
<b>Additional information</b>			If person remains asymptomatic, may return in-person on day 6. Testing recommended on day 5, but not required to return in-person. If symptoms develop – refer to “experiencing symptoms” chart.	If person remains asymptomatic, may return in-person on day 6. Testing recommended on day 5, but not required to return in-person. If symptoms develop – refer to “experiencing symptoms” chart.	Regardless of vaccination status.