

K-12 Schools Telebriefing: Q&A Report

October 1st, 2024

This report includes questions submitted by telebriefing attendees that were answered during the [K-12 Schools Telebriefing](#) via the Q&A function. **Answers are only accurate as of October 1st, 2024.** If you have a specific question or need clarification, please email us at LiveWellEducation@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Topic	Question	Answer
COVID-19	Does the COVID-19 infectious period no longer include 2 days prior to symptom onset?	That is correct. It no longer includes 2 days prior to onset. For symptomatic confirmed cases, the infectious period begins from the day of symptom onset until 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications, AND symptoms are mild and improving. For asymptomatic confirmed cases, there is no infectious period for the purpose of contact tracing.
COVID-19 Testing	Are employers still mandated to provide time for staff close contacts to get tested?	Employers shall make COVID-19 tests available at no cost, during paid time, to all employees of the employer who had a close contact in the workplace.
COVID-19 Testing	Do schools have access to any free COVID-19 tests for staff or do they need to purchase them?	The only free source of COVID-19 tests at this time is from the federal program, which is limited to public schools. Check out these CDPH resources for more information: Safe Schools for All School Testing for COVID-19 (for historical purposes only, guidance no longer in effect)
COVID-19 Testing	If a school has home test kits that expired in August, but the expiration date was extended to November, is it okay to continue distributing those tests to employees and families? Or should they be disposed of?	Typically, we use expired tests if there aren't enough tests available. The FDA posts which ones are okay to use and which ones can be extended/for how long . Use the tests that have new expiration dates, but if there are no further extensions, then only new tests need to be used and distributed.

<p>Independent Study</p>	<p>Can Independent Study be requested for students not present in a Local Education Agency (LEA) if they are attending an athletic event for 1-2 days? Does this depend on what your district stipulates?</p>	<p>A student can request independent study if they are not going to be in attendance for a particular reason for a minimum of 1 day. The statute would allow for this Independent Study to be requested - you would need to review your local policy for allowances as that is where the conditions exist.</p>
<p>Independent Study</p>	<p>For Short-Term Independent Study, if a student uses 15 days in semester 1, and misses more days in semester 2, does that mean we can no longer offer a Short-Term Contract option to regain the ADA?</p>	<p>That is correct. The student cannot be considered for short-term independent study for more than 15 days during the school year.</p>