



November 2, 2020

Dear DuPage County School and Child Care Health Partners:

As outlined in Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) “COVID-19 Interim Exclusion Guidance” updated 10/27/2020 (at www.isbe.net/Documents/IDPH-COVID19-Exclusion-Decison-Tree.pdf), guidance in column B on “Symptomatic individual with a negative COVID-19 diagnostic test” states: “If staff/student is a close contact to a confirmed case, the school is experiencing an outbreak, or **the LHD is requiring validation due to community transmission levels**, documentation of a negative RT-PCR COVID-19 test result is needed. In other situations, a negative RT-PCR, rapid molecular (rapid PCR) or negative antigen test is acceptable.”

For a symptomatic individual with COVID-19-like-illness, **DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) is requiring a confirmatory negative RT-PCR COVID-19 test result within 48 hours following a negative antigen test result or negative rapid molecular (rapid PCR) test result, for documentation required to return to school.** In the absence of confirmatory testing, the student/staff member must complete the minimum 10-day isolation period prior to returning to school.

Please provide a copy of this requirement information to parents of students or to school staff who are being referred for testing due to COVID-19-like-symptom(s), to share with their healthcare provider. DCHD’s COVID-19 Education Team is available for consultation or questions at COVID19Education@dupagehealth.org or (630) 221-7928. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Karen Ayala, MPH
Executive Director

Rashmi Chugh, MD, MPH
Medical Officer

