



## GEO ACADEMIES

### Updated Staff/Student COVID Policies and Procedures

*Date of Last Update: August 15, 2022*

*The following policies and procedures have been developed using information currently available from state health departments, the Center for Disease Control, and state and federal employment laws and requirements. We will continue to update these policies and procedures as new information becomes available. These policies and procedures are in place as of the date above and remain in place until updated or repealed.*

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On August 10, 2022, the Center for Disease Control relaxed its guidelines regarding COVID-19, noting the availability of vaccinations, the number of previously infected people, and the growing availability of anti-viral medications. The updated CDC guidelines also took into account specific recommendations for students, citing evidence regarding transmission likelihood and the damage caused by the stricter guidelines put in place during the early phases of the pandemic.

With these guidelines in mind, GEO Academies are implementing the following updated guidelines as recommended by the CDC:

- We recommend that all staff and students take advantage of all personal mitigation strategies available to them:
  - Maintain social distancing wherever possible.
  - Masks are optional for students; required for non-vaccinated staff. (We encourage mask-wearing by all staff, regardless of vaccination status, in order to minimize the risk of being out of school.)
  - Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing.
  - Vaccinations (as appropriate for your personal situation).
- Temperature checks are still required for all students. Staff is recommended to self-monitor on a daily basis.
- If a staff or student has been *exposed*, but showing no symptoms, they are no longer required to quarantine or isolate, however they should wear a mask for the 10 days following exposure.
- If a staff or student *tests positive*, they should isolate at home. They may return in 5 days IF they are symptom free AND have had no fever for at least 24 hours. If they are still symptomatic at day 5, they should remain isolated until symptoms (including fever) have been gone for 24 hours.
- Staff and students are no longer required to quarantine after an exposure.
- Students are not be required to "test to stay" and should only isolate upon a positive test result.
- Contact tracing is no longer required.
- Desk shields are no longer required.

*Please note that this situation is rapidly changing, and this document will be continually updated as we are provided new guidelines from health officials and other authorities. Thank you for your patience and flexibility. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Donna Trisler, Executive Director of Human Resources, at [dtrisler@geoacademies.org](mailto:dtrisler@geoacademies.org), or Dana Teasley, General Counsel [dteasley@geoacademies.org](mailto:dteasley@geoacademies.org) if you have any questions or concerns.*