



Jefferson County

Public Health Department

Ezea D. Ede, M.D.

County Health Authority

AMENDMENT AS OF August 11, 2022

Jefferson County Employee COVID-19 Policy

County employees are highly likely to come in contact with a Covid-19 source at some point in time. This policy is hereby implemented for all Jefferson County employees, not otherwise excluded as indicated below, who shall abide by this policy:

The following employees are excluded from this policy: Law Enforcement Officers and Correctional Institution Personnel (other than clerical staff).

All Jefferson County employees are strongly encouraged to wear masks over their mouth and nose in all County buildings while around others.

The CDC encourages everyone to receive a COVID-19 vaccination and any vaccine boosters that have been medically proven safe and effective.

Exposure:

Per CDC Guidelines, exposure is considered in the following situation:

- (1) Close contact with someone infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in a way that increases the likelihood of getting infected with the virus.

Close Contact:

Per CDC Guidelines a close contact is considered in the following situation:

- (1) Someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

If you have had close contact exposure with someone infected with the COVID-19 virus, you are strongly encouraged to wear a well-fitting mask at all times when in public spaces and when you are within 6 feet of any person for a period of 10 days from the date of your last close contact with a person positive for COVID-19. The last date of the close contact is day 0. If you become symptomatic, you must be tested and if positive you must quarantine as stated below for "Positive for COVID-19." If negative, continue to

self-monitor for symptoms listed below. If you would like to be tested for COVID-19 after an exposure please call Employee Health to schedule an appointment.

At home tests are not an approved test at this time. Approved tests are antigen test/rapid screening test done by Employee Health or a medical provider who is required to provide documentation to the County Health Department. If testing is done by any provider other than Employee Health, proper documentation of a negative test result must be provided to the employee's department head or designated personnel.

The following symptoms have been found in people with the Covid-19 virus:

99°F or above Headache Dry Cough Shortness of Breath Loss of Taste or Smell
Diarrhea Fatigue Muscle Aches Sore Throat Nausea/ Vomiting Chills

Positive for Covid-19

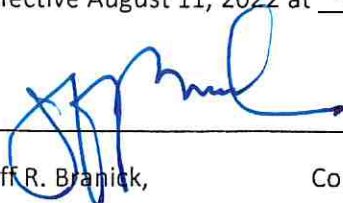
If you test positive for the Covid-19 virus by an approved antigen test/rapid screening test:

- o You will quarantine at home for 5 days starting from the day of your approved positive test.
- o Before you can return to work:
 - o You **MUST** take an approved antigen test/rapid screening test on day 5 of quarantine. To return to work you must test negative and be fever free for 24 hours, without medication to reduce fever, and have lessening symptoms, or have a release, due to COVID, to return to work from a medical provider.
- o When you return to work, you are strongly encouraged to wear a mask for the next 5 days.


The Employee Health Clinic (409 784-5881) will help employees of Jefferson County facilitate appointments and/or test for the COVID-19 virus. Please call your primary care physician for needed medication/treatments or at any point regarding your COVID-19 health concerns.

Questions regarding employee policies/leave must be directed to the Jefferson County Human Resources Department.

Effective August 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.



Jeff R. Branick, County Judge



Ezea D. Ede, MD Public Health Authority

8.15.2022

Date

08/11/22

Date