



Jefferson County

Public Health Department

Ezea D. Ede, M.D.

County Health Authority

AMENDMENT AS OF August 10th, 2021

Jefferson County Employee COVID-19 Policy

Whereas Covid-19 seems to be on the rise again in Southeast Texas and whereas county employees are highly probable to be in contact with a Covid-19 source this policy is hereby implemented for all Jefferson County employees, who are not excluded, and 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.

We encourage all employees to receive a COVID-19 vaccination that has been medically proven safe and effective.

Close Contact:

Per CDC Guidelines a close contact is considered in the following situations;

- (1) in conversation with or stationed within six feet of a person for more than fifteen (15) minutes who has Covid-19 symptoms or
- (2) You provided care at home to someone who is sick with Covid-19
- (3) You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed)
- (4) You shared eating or drinking utensils
- (5) They sneezed and/or coughed near you

If you are fully vaccinated and were wearing a mask at the time of exposure: No quarantine is necessary. If you develop symptoms you will need to notify your supervisor immediately, quarantine, and be tested.

If you were not wearing a mask and fully vaccinated you will need to quarantine for 5 days. After 5 days you must test and if negative you may return to work if symptom free.

If you are **NOT** fully vaccinated and have come in close contact with a person who has tested positive for the Covid-19 virus notify your supervisor immediately, quarantine at home for 5 days, and self-monitor for the symptoms listed below. After 5 days you must test. If the test is negative and you are symptom free you may return to work.

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:

- You will quarantine at home for 7 days starting from the day of your positive test.
- Before you can return to work:
 - You **MUST** be retested and it must be a negative result. You will need to provide a copy of the negative result to your supervisor and/or Human Resources
 - You **MUST** be Negative for all symptoms for 24 hours. The only exception is taste and smell. Your sense of smell and loss of taste can last for extended periods following COVID-19 without still shedding the virus.
- The first 72 hours (3 days) you return to work, you are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to wear your face mask your **ENTIRE** work day.

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 10, 2021 at _____.



Jeff R. Branick County Judge

8-10-21

Date



Ezea D. Ede, MD Public Health Authority

8-10-21

Date