



Clallam County Department of Health and Human Services

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Return to Work Guidelines

For Healthcare Workers & First Responders

These guidelines are a compilation of existing CDC and Washington DOH Guidance detailing return to work procedures for essential workforce after COVID-19 exposure or infection.

Return to Work After Confirmed or Suspected Exposure to COVID-19:

- Asymptomatic essential workforce (healthcare workers and 1st responders) may return to work immediately but must receive daily (twice daily for 24 hours shifts) symptom and temperature monitoring until 14 days after exposure.
- At the first sign of fever or symptoms, worker must cease all patient care activities and leave work to self-isolate at home.

Return to Work After Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19:

Exclude staff from work until:

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed *since recovery* defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and** improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **and**
- At least 7 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared*

If staff is tested and tests negative for COVID-19, the above 72 hour cutoff is reduced to 24 hours.

Citations for this Guidance:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/hcp-return-work.html>