



November 30, 2021

To Parents, Guardians and Students:

We wanted to share some updated information to our families about the new Test to Stay opportunity shared by OHA and ODE early last week. We provided you information regarding this opportunity in our letter around the outdoor mask changes and the test to stay, with additional information to come. Here is what we can share with you about the test to stay option for students that are unvaccinated:

OHA's test to stay protocol allows unvaccinated students to continue to participate in in-person instruction in Oregon's K-12 schools during their quarantine period. The risk of transmission is minimized in school settings because the required testing is combined with several layers of mitigation including universal masking indoors, physical distancing, cohorting, ventilation and increased sanitation.

- Test to stay is available only for unvaccinated, asymptomatic students who were exposed to a close contact. Exposures are reviewed for proximity and duration of exposure.
- Test to stay requires unvaccinated students to be tested twice during the 7 days following exposure. First, as soon as the exposure has been identified, with a second test occurring between days 5-7 following the exposure.
- Test to stay is a form of modified quarantine, which allows students to attend school during their 7-day quarantine period. However, students participating in test to stay are expected to maintain quarantine outside of classroom settings.
- Students participating in test to stay may participate in school-related extracurricular activities during their 7-day quarantine period but must wear a face covering at all times during these activities.
- The CDC considers test to stay a [promising practice](#) for minimizing quarantine and maximizing school days in school.

**Note:** Test to stay may **not** be used following **extracurricular exposures** because masking in these settings is optional and the risk of transmission within the cohort is greater. Similarly, test to stay may **not** be used following **community or in-home exposures**.

The test to stay protocol is optional and is offered at no cost to students and families. Unvaccinated students have the option of following LPHA recommendation for length of quarantine if they do not consent to participate in test to stay. Those of you that wish to participate in the test to stay, parents must fill out and return a copy of Parental [consent](#) for testing.

Implementing the test to stay protocol is an exciting step in keeping all of our students learning in-person.

Adam Watkins  
Superintendent