

This letter is to inform you that you have been identified as a close contact to a positive case of novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, you need to do the following:

- Monitor for symptoms such as a fever (above 100.4), cough, or difficulty breathing/shortness of breath.
- Take your temperature at approximately the same time each day.
- If you experience symptoms of COVID-19, isolate yourself and call your doctor immediately. Inform them of your potential exposure and your symptoms. If you are ill and feel you have an emergency, seek care immediately and inform dispatch and health care providers that you have had contact with a known COVID-19 case. Please let NKY Health know if you seek medical care.
- Remain in your home. As much as possible, you should stay in a separate room away from other people in your home. DO NOT eat meals with others in your home. You should also use a separate bathroom, if available.
- Do not attend work, school, shopping centers, movie theaters, stadiums, church, or any other event.
- Do not travel outside of the county where you reside.
- Do not travel outside of Kentucky.
- Do not travel by any public or commercial transportation such as a bus, taxi, airplane, train, Uber/Lyft or boat.

These actions must be taken for 14 days after your last exposure to the positive case. If you live in the same household as a positive case or have continuing exposure to the case, the 14 day quarantine will begin **after** the case has recovered. The case is considered recovered when the following conditions have been met: they are fever-free for 1 day without fever-reducing medication, any symptoms experienced are improving, **and** it has been at least 10 days since their symptoms started (or since their test date if they had no symptoms). This will be 20 days for individuals with laboratory-confirmed or clinically suspected COVID-19 with severe or critical illness or who are severely immunocompromised. Upon return to work, the individual will need to wear a surgical mask for 14 days after symptoms started or until all symptoms have completely resolved, whichever is longer. These actions must be taken regardless of facial covering use during exposure or testing results prior to 14 days after the last contact with the positive case.

COVID-19 ranges from a mild to severe respiratory illness. Symptoms may appear anywhere from 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. Most people infected with COVID-19 have a mild to moderate illness, and are able to recover at home. However, some people are more likely to have severe illness requiring hospitalization, including the elderly and people with chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease and lung disease.

It is important that we all do our part to prevent the spread of illness in our community. Everyone should regularly wash hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow, and clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects. Stay home if you are sick and stay away from others who are sick. Practice social distancing- do not gather in groups and stay at least 6 feet away from others.

If you have questions, please contact Kentucky's COVID-19 Hotline at 1-800-722-5725 or visit [www.nkyhealth.org](http://www.nkyhealth.org) or [www.kycovid19.ky.gov](http://www.kycovid19.ky.gov).