

### **SouthernTech's Adaptable Pandemic Response Plan**

SouthernTech will offer in-person, on-site instruction in accordance with our Board of Education approved school calendar unless deemed "State of Emergency" by Governor Stitt.

SouthernTech will base changes to the instructional model (in-person, distance, blended) on collective District Specific Data Trends which includes but is not limited to the following:

- [Coronavirus/COVID-19: Quarantine and Isolation FAQs for Oklahoma Public Schools](#)
- [Oklahoma State Department of Education Color Coded COVID-19 Map/Protocols](#)
- State Department of Health's [COVID-19 Alert System](#)
- COVID-19 Weekly Case Report that reflects COVID cases from all cities within our school district.
- Southern Tech Daily Attendance Records
- Partnering School Data
- Carter, Love, and Murray County Health Care Capacity

### **Campus Daily Health Protocol:**

SouthernTech will continue to align with and follow all current CDC COVID 19 guidelines. SouthernTech will follow all applicable health orders and required protocols, and adhere to district policies relating to:

- Physical distancing and/or use of student/staff grouping
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine

The health, safety and well-being of our students and staff are our top priorities. We have taken extraordinary steps since reopening our campus to protect the SouthernTech community and do our part to slow the spread of this virus. We will continue to rigorously adhere to local, state and CDC guidelines. In the event a confirmed case or known exposure occurs in our SouthernTech community, we will follow Oklahoma State Department of Health guidelines to notify staff, students, and business partners.

As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, updates will be made on the district website – [Sotech.edu](http://Sotech.edu) – and social media pages. If you have questions or individual concerns, please contact the SouthernTech COVID 19 Response Team at 580-224-8270.

### **SouthernTech's Quarantine Protocol for COVID 19 Exposures of Students, Faculty & Staff :**

The online Screening and Reporting tool [SouthernTech COVID Reporting Survey](#) **MUST** be completed each time any of the following scenarios are experienced, for assessment *and* clearance **BEFORE** an employee or student may return to SouthernTech Campus.

SouthernTech COVID Reporting Survey is available for **students** via their Canvas LMS Account  
 SouthernTech COVID Reporting Survey is available for **staff** on the internal website linked [here](#).

Checking students and staff for COVID-19 symptoms can pose challenges given the similarities between certain COVID-19 symptoms and seasonal allergies; challenges with younger persons recognizing when they are sick due to mild symptoms; and the fact that some persons may have COVID-19 and not have any symptoms at all.

OSDH has developed a symptom assessment tool to help determine when someone should be kept home or sent home from school and/or tested for COVID-19:

“A” Symptoms	“B” Symptoms
Fever > 100.4 F	Nasal Congestion / Stuffy Nose
Sore Throat	Runny Nose
Cough	Muscle /Body Aches
Difficulty Breathing	Fatigue
Diarrhea or Vomiting	Chills
New Loss of Taste or Smell	Nausea
	Loss of Appetite
	Elevated Temperature >100.4 F
	New Onset of Severe Headache
<b>Recommend Testing when:</b>	
Person has 1 of the “A” Symptoms <b>OR</b>	
Person has 3 of the “B” Symptoms	

**Complete and Submit SouthernTech COVID-19 Reporting Survey:**

**Vaccinated Students, Faculty, and Staff**

- You have symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19.
- You have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 14 days or are awaiting COVID-19 test results.

**Non- Vaccinated Students, Faculty, and Staff**

- You have symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19.
- You have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 14 days or are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- You have been in close contact within the past 14 days with someone who is COVID-19 positive or who is awaiting COVID-19 results.
- You have a household member who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- You have returned to the United States following international travel.
- You have returned from a domestic or international cruise.

Self-Quarantine: Non- Vaccinated Individuals who have been in close contact (exposed) with a COVID-19 positive person/s are advised to self-quarantine for 10 days. In this case, you are expected to provide notification of your absence in accordance with your department and student handbook attendance policy.

1. Mandatory Notification

- a. All Students: Notify the Student Services Department and your instructor that you are not going to be in attendance
- b. SouthernTech staff: If a student discloses a COVID related situation, direct them to complete the online SouthernTech COVID Reporting Survey and forward student information to COVID-19 Team designee.

If the student is diagnosed as COVID-19 positive, a SouthernTech COVID Team member will initiate contact tracing with student. Based on the initial assessment, the contact tracing personnel will notify all parties that are involved in potential exposure situation.

If an employee is diagnosed as COVID-19 positive, a SouthernTech COVID Team member will initiate contact tracing. Based on their initial assessment, the contact tracing personnel will notify all parties that are involved in potential exposure situation.

**SouthernTech’s Staff, Student, or Faculty Return to Campus Post Isolation or Quarantine Criteria:**

Be advised: ALL COVID CASES will be addressed by following the direction of local and state health departments and will follow most current CDC guidelines.

**In the Case of a Confirmed COVID POSITIVE Person:**

COVID Positive Persons *with Symptoms*:

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, **AND**
- At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed since fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, **AND**
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).

COVID Positive Persons *without Symptoms*:

- Can discontinue home isolation and return to school/work settings **10 days** after their first positive test, **AND**
- At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed and the patient remains without symptoms or fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications).

**In the Case of an EXPOSURE to COVID Positive Person:**

**If exposed** to a COVID Positive Person *with symptoms*:

- Exposed person can discontinue home isolation and return to school/work settings **10 days** after close contact with infected person which is within 2 days PRIOR to positive person’s first positive test or date of first symptoms (whichever came first), **AND**
  - At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed remains without symptoms or fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications)

**If exposed** to COVID Positive Person *without symptoms*:

- The exposed person can discontinue home isolation and return to school/work settings **7 days** after close contact with infected person (which begins within 2 days PRIOR to positive person's *first* positive test) **AND:**
  - Documentation of Negative COVID –19 test,
  - At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed remains without symptoms or fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications).
  
- The exposed person can discontinue home isolation and return to school/work settings **10 days** after close contact with infected person (which begins within 2 days PRIOR to positive person's *first* positive test), **AND:**
  - At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed remains without symptoms or fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications).

*Summary of Resources used:*

*Coronavirus/COVID-19: Quarantine and Isolation FAQs for Oklahoma Public Schools Aug 2021*

*State of Oklahoma SB658 July 21, 2021*

*Oklahoma State and Local Health Department -*

- <https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov/covid-19-alert-system>
- *July 28, 2021 District 8 OSDH School Superintendent Meeting Minutes and Supplemental Materials*

REVISED:

- Aug 30,2021
- Aug 18, 2021
- Aug 2, 2021
- November 5, 2020

