

Guidance for College and University Students Who Are in Quarantine or Isolation at Thanksgiving

The following guidance is strongly recommended for students attending Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) who are in an isolation or quarantine period that coincides with the start of the Thanksgiving break.

Isolation housing expectations (for students who test positive for COVID-19)

- Students diagnosed with COVID-19 are relocated to campus-supported isolation housing within 24 hours of diagnosis.

Quarantine housing expectations (for students identified as close contacts)

- When there is not an IHE outbreak or IHE cases are occurring below the threshold for partial closure:
 - Students who live in a single room/apartment and have their own bathroom may quarantine in existing housing, if practical (e.g. the IHE can provide meals and other needed supports and supervision).
 - Students living in a group situation may quarantine in existing housing if all roommates are simultaneously in quarantine, students do not share a kitchen or bathroom with others outside of their apartment/suite, no one in the household is at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19, and all roommates are informed of the possibility of longer duration of quarantine if anyone in the household develops COVID-19.
 - IHE should have campus-controlled quarantine space available for students who cannot quarantine safely in their current living situation or if there are concerns about ability to comply or meet student needs in their current living situation.

Exceptional Circumstances

Under exceptional circumstances, isolation (for students who test positive) or quarantine (for students identified as close contacts) may be allowed at the student's family home, with approval from the IHE's Director of Health Services and in consultation with RIDOH, if:

- There are specific medical or clinical reasons that a student must return home to isolate or quarantine;
- Travel to the family home is by private vehicle, without stopping en route, and no further than three to four hours driving distance from the IHE;
- The student can safely isolate or quarantine once the student arrives at home;
- RIDOH is informed so that notification can be made to the state where isolation or quarantine will occur;
- Members of the household in which the student will be **isolating** are notified in writing by the IHE of the following:
 - Household members must quarantine per CDC guidance.
 - The isolated student must stay home except to get medical care.
 - The isolated student should separate from others, avoiding contact with other members of the household and pets, by staying in a specific sick room or area and using a separate bathroom (if available).

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- The isolated student should not share personal household items, like cups, towels, and utensils.
- The isolated student should wear a mask when around other people.
- Members of the household in which the student will be **quarantining** are notified in writing by the IHE of the following:
 - The student may become infectious.
 - During quarantine, the student should practice social distancing, wear a mask when in the same room as another person, and if possible, not share a bathroom.
 - All common areas in which the student may touch anything should be disinfected regularly.
 - Household members at risk of severe illness because of age or pre-existing conditions should avoid all contact with the student.
 - Household members will, themselves, have to quarantine if the student tests positive for COVID-19.

