

Assessing Symptomatic Persons for COVID-19

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
Recommend testing when:	
Person has 1 “A” Symptom OR	
Person has 3 “B” Symptoms	

Source: CDC’s Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention
[Guidance for K-12 Schools \(CDC.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov/schools/media/releases/2020/s1105-20-001.html)