

Cissna Park CUSD #6-Test to Stay Procedures

The Cissna Park CUSD #6 Board of Education at the December 13, 2021 meeting directed the school administration to implement a Test to Stay Program in which the parents/guardians are responsible for securing negative COVID-19 test results for their child. The details of this program are as follows. All expenses associated with this program will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian of the student participating in the Test to Stay program.

Test to Stay requires schools to exclude unvaccinated students and school personnel who are identified as close contacts to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, except that schools may use Test to Stay procedures. CDC defines a close contact as an individual not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. Individuals who are fully vaccinated or who tested positive for COVID-19 within prior 90 days and are currently asymptomatic are not considered close contacts.

To protect in-person learning, close contacts may remain in school through Test to Stay protocols, as has been documented by the CDC. Cissna Park CUSD #6 **requires that students test on days one, three, five, and seven from date of exposure** with a NAAT viral test (such as a PCR or, preferably, a rapid antigen or PCR test with Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)) and that close contacts **be permitted to remain in the classroom as long as the results are negative**. Rapid antigen or PCR tests (e.g., BinaxNOW) may be most appropriate for Test to Stay given the short turnaround time for results. The test results must be turned in to the school for the student to remain in the classroom. If the test results are not provided to the school, the student will be sent home.

Participation Requirements:

- Test to Stay may be used for any indoor exposure, with the exception of household exposures, for both students and staff who are not fully vaccinated.
- The individual must be able to maintain physical distancing as much as possible, and masking at all times (indoors and outdoors) during the testing period.
- Students or staff who are not fully vaccinated and engaged in Test to Stay after an exposure may participate in extracurricular activities as long as they remain consistently and correctly masked and physically distanced for the full testing period. **Students should not participate in sports competition during the testing period** and should remain masked for the full 14 day period.
- Test to Stay participants should avoid social gatherings and remain at home when not at school functions during the testing period.

Close contacts should be identified on or before day 5 after exposure so that at least two tests are performed for Test to Stay. If the close contact is identified five days or more from the date of exposure, adjust testing accordingly, ideally on days five and seven after the last exposure.