JHCCC FAQs

1. **Do I need to report my positive COVID test?**

Yes, all JHM and JHU employees living outside of Florida must complete the [COVID Positive Test Submission form](#) to report your positive test result.

Your submission will be processed by the next business day. An email notification will be sent to you, your supervisor, and your local Occupational Health (OH) office with the start date of your off-duty status, as well as your anticipated return to campus date.

2. **I live in Florida. Do I need to report my positive COVID test?**

No. Effective July 1, 2023, JHM employees living or working in Florida are no longer required to report their COVID test results.

If you tested positive, do not present to work. Call out following your standard call-out policies and procedures. Contact your manager or local Occupational Health office for more information.

3. **I have new COVID symptoms and was COVID-positive within the past 30 days. I did not receive Paxlovid. What should I do?**

Given the relatively short time period since your last COVID infection, your symptoms may be related to your initial infection.

As always, if you have a fever, diarrhea, or vomiting, please follow HEIC policy and do not report to work. Call out following your departmental call-out policy and seek further evaluation from your healthcare provider as needed.

4. **I tested positive for COVID within the past 30 days and received Paxlovid treatment. I just tested positive again. What should I do?**

If you have received Paxlovid (any dose or duration) in the past 30 days and tested positive again, complete the [COVID Positive Test form](#) and do not report to work. Call out following your departmental call-out policy. Contact your healthcare provider if you have questions about your symptoms or treatment.

5. **I tested positive for COVID less than 3 months ago. I just tested positive again. What should I do now?**

Complete the [COVID Positive Test form](#) and do not report to work. Call out following your departmental call-out policy. Contact your healthcare provider if you have questions about your symptoms or treatment.
6. I tested positive for COVID, when can I return to campus?

Report your positive result by completing the COVID Positive Test Submission form.

Following the submission of the form above, you will receive an email notification from the JHCCC with your off-duty date and your earliest return-to-work clearance date.

You must meet the following criteria to return to work:

- Overall symptoms should be improving.
- No fever within 24 hours of returning to work onsite, without the use of fever reducing medications.
- No diarrhea or vomiting within 24 hours of returning to work onsite.

7. I tested positive for COVID, do I need to test negative so I can come back to work?

No, you do not need to test again to return to duty, and ongoing testing is not recommended.

8. What precautions should I take when returning to work after my COVID-19 infection?

- Continue to wear a well-fitting facemask until at least 10 days have passed since your symptoms started (or 20 days if you are severely immunocompromised).
- If you must remove your facemask, such as while eating or drinking, you should separate yourself at least 6 feet from others.
- Continue to monitor for symptoms and seek further evaluation from your healthcare provider if symptoms persist or worsen.

9. What do I do if my COVID test is negative, but I still have symptoms?

Your symptoms may be the result of a variety of viruses or bacteria. Practice good hand hygiene. Get rest and stay hydrated. Wear a mask around others. Consider repeating your COVID test in the next 48 hours. Follow up with your healthcare provider for evaluation and treatment as needed.

If you have a fever, diarrhea, or vomiting, you should call out sick. Per the Johns Hopkins Infection Control policy, you must be without these symptoms for 24 hours before you can return onsite.

10. Do I need to be cleared by Occupational Health if I was out sick?

If you tested positive for COVID, you may have up to 10 days to recover without further clearance by Occupational Health. If you are out beyond 10 days, you will need to contact your local Occupational Health office for return-to-work clearance. You will need to provide a medical note from your healthcare provider.

Updated 8/17/23
If you are off work for more than 3 days, but was negative for COVID, contact your local Occupational Health office for return-to-work clearance per JHM Attendance Policy HR938 and JHU Sick Leave Policy HR025.

11. How does the JHCCC determine how long I’ll be off-duty if I am positive for COVID?

Per Infection Control guidelines for COVID, employees must isolate for at least 5 days. Day 0 is the day of symptom onset or the date of your positive test if you did not have any symptoms, whichever came first.

If you are considered severely immunocompromised, you must isolate for at least 20 days. In general, this includes individuals who cannot receive live vaccines due to degree of immunosuppression. Conditions include, but are not limited to, active chemotherapy, active hematologic malignancy, solid organ or bone marrow transplant recipient, untreated HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count <200, primary or acquired severe immunodeficiency disorder, treatment with high-dose prednisone or the equivalent, or treatment with other immunocompromising agents.

12. What if I am too sick to return to work after being cleared to return?

**EXCLUDES FLORIDA Employees**

The Clearance Date in your email is the earliest date you may return to work onsite. If you are too sick to return to work on that date, you must call out per your standard call-out policies and procedures and complete the **Ongoing Symptoms -- Unable to Return-to-Work** form.

Employees may have up to 10 days to return to work without further clearance by Occupational Health (20 days if immunocompromised).

If you are unable to return to work by Day 10, you will need to contact your local Occupational Health office for clearance (with a medical note from your healthcare provider).

13. What types of COVID tests are accepted by Hopkins?

- **Any PCR COVID test result**
- **Any COVID test that resulted in a positive result**
- **Home COVID Tests**
  - [At-Home OTC COVID-19 Diagnostic Tests | FDA](https://www.fda.gov/rx-medical-devices-over-the-counter/over-counter-covid-diagnostics)
  - [Understanding Home COVID Test Results](https://www.fda.gov/consumers/understanding-your-home-covid-test-results)

14. Where can I find the Attendance Policy?

- JHM [Attendance Policy HR938](#)
- JHU [Sick Leave Policy HR025](#)