

Cowley County COVID-19 Isolation Guidelines

The guidelines provided are intended to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 infection among Cowley County residents and should be followed by those that are in isolation. These guidelines are evidence-informed and were developed from guidelines offered by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and local COVID-19 illness and recovery data.

These guidelines are subject to change and will be amended as necessary by the Public Health Officer. Some situations may result in the issuance of an Isolation Order by the Public Health Officer. All Isolation Orders will be issued to a specific individual as a public health protective measure. Individualized Isolation Orders are available upon request and should be provided to employers to justify required absences. Please contact the City-Cowley County Health Department with any COVID-19 questions or situation-specific guidelines.

Isolation refers to methods that are engaged once an individual tests positive for COVID-19 using an antigen or PCR test. Individuals with a confirmed case of COVID-19 must remain isolated away from others in their home or other place of care for the duration of their infectious period. Isolation is to begin immediately after testing positive for COVID-19. More information is provided below to determine infection periods.

Mild or Asymptomatic Persons

Individuals with mild or asymptomatic COVID-19 cases are required to begin isolating following a positive COVID-19 test and must remain isolated for a minimum of six (6) days. Day one (1) will be the collection date of the first positive specimen.

If at the conclusion of day six (6) the individual feels they have recovered from their illness and has been symptom free for a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours, they may be tested for COVID-19 at the Health Department or other CLIA certified testing facility using an antigen test. If the COVID-19 test yields a negative result, the individual may resume activities on day seven (7). If the COVID-19 test yields a positive result, the individual must continue to isolate until they have recovered from their illness.

Symptomatic or Other Persons

Individuals with a symptomatic COVID-19 infection OR those that do not wish to be retested are required to begin isolating following a positive COVID-19 test and must remain isolated for a minimum of ten (10) days or until symptoms resolve, whichever comes second. Day one (1) will be the collection date of the first positive specimen. Individuals still experiencing symptoms after ten (10) days are encouraged to contact their primary care physician. Testing at the conclusion of ten (10) days is not recommended.