

From the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene 8/3/2021:

Dear Early Intervention Provider,

As you know, COVID vaccines have been readily available for several months, with many providers having been fully vaccinated for well over 3 months. In accordance with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Bureau of Early Intervention (NYC BEI) is updating our previous guidance from March 2021 about quarantine and reiterating our guidance about reporting, vaccination, testing, and masks.

I. Quarantine

1. If an individual is **fully vaccinated** and is a close contact (within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) of an individual with confirmed COVID-19 but has no symptoms, they do not need to quarantine if BOTH of the following criteria are met:
 - a. Are fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine); **AND**
 - b. Have remained asymptomatic since last COVID-19 exposure.
2. Individuals who do not meet both of the above criteria and who have been exposed to someone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 are required to quarantine for ten days.
3. There is no testing requirement to end quarantine if an individual did not develop symptoms while they were in quarantine. However, an individual should be tested immediately if they develop any symptoms during the fourteen days after they were exposed to COVID-19.
4. If an individual was **previously diagnosed** with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 **within the past 3 months** and has recovered, and is subsequently a close contact (within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) of an individual with confirmed COVID-19, they are not required to quarantine as long as they do not develop symptoms and **it is within 3 months** after the date of symptom onset from their initial SARS-CoV-2 infection or within 3 months of the date of first positive diagnostic test if they did not have symptoms during their initial infection.
5. Regardless of quarantine status, **all individuals exposed** to COVID-19 must:
 - a. Continue daily symptom monitoring through Day 14;
 - b. Continue strict adherence to all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions, including hand hygiene and the use of face coverings, through Day 14 (even if fully vaccinated);
 - c. Immediately self-isolate if any symptoms develop, and contact the local public health authority or their health care provider to report this change in clinical status and determine if they should seek testing.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-vaccines.page>

II. Ongoing Need to Report Cases of COVID-19 to the NYC Health Department

1. Under Article 11 of the New York City Health Code, providers of Early Intervention services operating in the five boroughs of NYC are required to report to the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC Health Department) confirmed cases of COVID-19 among children, therapists and teachers in all service settings, utilizing reporting protocols previously

established in the **New York City Early Intervention Program COVID-19 Case Reporting Requirements for Early Intervention Providers** dated 9.22.20.
<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/covid/covid-19-reporting-requirements-ei.pdf>

III. Vaccination and Testing

1. NYC BEI recommends that all EI providers who can be vaccinated against COVID-19 be vaccinated as promptly as possible.
2. NYC BEI also recommends that individuals who are not fully vaccinated or who remain unvaccinated undergo COVID-19 testing at regular intervals.
3. Early Intervention provider agencies may choose to implement additional guidelines for their employees.

IV. Face Coverings

1. Early Intervention teachers and therapists are required to wear a face covering during the course of service delivery. This is because the vaccination status of family members may be unknown, and children receiving EI services are unvaccinated and may be immunocompromised.
2. Everyone who will be part of the session, is over age 2, and can medically tolerate a face covering should be wearing a face covering. Everyone who is in the home or location where the EI services are being delivered but not directly involved in the session should remain at least 6 feet away from where the session is taking place.

Please contact EITA@health.nyc.gov with questions.

Thank you for your work to provide quality services to children and families in the Early Intervention Program.