Students are very likely to reach out to their professors if they test positive for or have been directly exposed to COVID-19. Please follow this guidance when contacted. Note that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines direct exposure as being in contact with a COVID-19 positive person in a proximity of six feet or less for more than 15 minutes. Section 1 addresses a student positive test result. Section 2 addresses a student with direct exposure. Section 3 addresses indirect exposures, and Section 4 includes an email communication template for you to use when contacting students.

**STUDENT REPORTS POSITIVE TEST RESULT**

1. Your communication with the student should include the following:
   - Tell the student to please inform the university of the positive test result by calling 405-974-2345, emailing covid19response@uco.edu and/or filling out the [UCO COVID-19 self-reporting form](https://www.uco.edu/coronavirus/whatsnext#students). Reporting is required for those who have been on campus and tested positive. Students can also refer to the university’s coronavirus website for additional information: [https://www.uco.edu/coronavirus/whatsnext#students](https://www.uco.edu/coronavirus/whatsnext#students).
   - The university is following [CDC guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) regarding when the student can return to campus for in-person classes and activities. Students should not return to class/campus until these criteria are met. Current guidance states those who have had COVID-19 can be around others after:
     - Isolating for 10 days, even if you’ve had no symptoms; OR,
     - 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; AND,
     - Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving (Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation); OR,
     - A note of release from their health care provider.
   - Offer alternatives for continuing class if they are able. These absences should be considered excused.
   - Ask if the student has the resources they need to care for themselves, such as access to food, medicine and other health care needs. If the student indicates they do not, please complete the university’s quarantine help form at [http://uco.edu/quarantinehelp](http://uco.edu/quarantinehelp). Note that students living in university housing should also contact their resident assistant so they can be moved to a quarantine room and receive assistance.
   - You should take your class virtual for one class cycle from the date of notification. You do not need permission to do this. During the 48 hours or so that this occurs, the COVID-19 Response Team will finalize contact tracing efforts.
   - Do not offer comments or suggestions regarding their health condition. The student should follow their doctor’s advice regarding treatments and ultimate release from
2. Contact the UCO COVID-19 Response Team by calling 405-974-2345, emailing covid19response@uco.edu or filling out the UCO COVID-19 self-reporting form to share the student name and reported positive test result, the course name and CRN. Yes, this may be duplicative, but it ensures the information gets to the university so the next steps in contact tracing and mitigation can occur. You will also be asked to share information regarding others in the class who may have been directly exposed (per CDC guidelines) to the impacted student while in class to aid in contact tracing.

3. Take any additional steps as directed by the COVID-19 Response Team, including getting tested yourself if you had prolonged direct exposure, as defined by the CDC (six (6) feet or less for fifteen (15) minutes or more).

4. To protect the privacy of personal health record information, do not share the name of the student impacted with other students. Online (WWW) classes can continue as planned.

5. Inform your department chair of the situation. To protect the privacy of personal health record information, do not share the name of the impacted student with colleagues.

6. The COVID-19 Response Team will reach out to you after you submit your own report on the student via the self-reporting form. They will seek your help in contact tracing. They will reach out to the student first to collect information on all classes or campus activities that they have attended while possibly contagious.

7. Any persons in the classroom who are not identified as Direct Exposure through contact tracing do not need to take any action as they are considered, per CDC, just like a member of the general public, having not been within six (6) feet of the infected person for fifteen (15) minutes or more.

**STUDENT REPORTS DIRECT EXPOSURE**

Direct exposure constitutes being in a proximity of six feet or less for more than 15 minutes with someone who has tested positive or has symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

1. Your communication with the student should include the following:
   - Tell the student to please inform the university of the exposure by calling 405-974-2345, emailing covid19response@uco.edu or filling out the UCO COVID-19 self-reporting form. The student will receive further guidance regarding testing and next steps from the university. They can also refer to the university’s coronavirus website for additional information: https://www.uco.edu/coronavirus/whatsnext#students.
   - The university is following CDC guidelines regarding when the student can return to campus for in-person classes and activities. They should not return to class/campus until these criteria are met. Current guidance states that anyone who has been directly exposed
to someone with COVID-19 should stay home for 14 days after their last exposure to that person.

- Offer alternatives for continuing class if they are able.

2. Contact the COVID-19 Response Team by calling 405-974-2345, emailing covid19response@uco.edu or filling out the UCO COVID-19 self-reporting form to share the student name and reported exposure, the course name and CRN. Yes, this may be duplicative, but it ensures the information gets to the university so the mitigation next steps can occur.

3. Take any additional steps as directed by the COVID-19 Response Team. You DO NOT need to cancel class or shift to alternative delivery in relation to a Direct Exposure report. To protect the privacy of personal health record information, do not share the name of the impacted student with other students. Online (WWW) classes can continue as planned.

4. Inform your department chair of the situation. To protect the privacy of personal health record information, do not share the name of the impacted student with colleagues.

5. The COVID-19 Response Team WILL NOT make contact with you unless there are unusual circumstances associated with your report of a Direct Exposure. This is due to there being no actionable steps for you or others in the classroom to take in this situation. If you have questions, you may call 974-2345 (UCO Police non-emergency number) and ask to speak with someone on the team or you can email your questions or concerns to covid19response@uco.edu.

6. If a student or employee identified as a Direct Exposure later develops symptoms or tests positive for the virus, the student/employee is required to notify UCO of this so contact tracing and other mitigation efforts can take place. Pending a change in status, persons who are known to be a Direct Exposure are required to quarantine for fourteen (14) days from the date of exposure.

**STUDENT REPORTS INDIRECT EXPOSURE**

In cases of indirect exposure, there is substantially less risk. Indirect exposure is considered contact with someone who had a direct exposure or being more than six feet away and/or around less than 15 minutes from someone who tested positive. The student should monitor their health and if they develop symptoms pursue testing. The student can contact their primary health care provider or the OU Physicians Health and Wellness Clinic at UCO for further guidance, if needed.

There is no need to shift class delivery.
EMAIL COMMUNICATION TEMPLATE

When moving the class to virtual for 48 hours or one class cycle based on a student who was in a recent class being symptomatic or having a positive test:

Hello,
I have been informed that a student in (((INSERT CLASS))) has tested positive for COVID-19.

As a result, we will temporarily shift class to virtual synchronous delivery for (((INSERT TIMEFRAME))). Class will continue to meet synchronously on the regularly scheduled day(s) and times. We will plan to reconvene in person on (((INSERT DATE))). I will inform you if that changes. Please do not report back to the classroom until that date. To access the virtual synchronous class, (((INSERT INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACCESSING CLASS VIA ZOOM, TEAMS or WEBEX)))

The COVID-19 Response Team is conducting contact tracing and will reach out to anyone else in the class that may have had direct prolonged exposure to the impacted student. If you are contacted, please follow their guidance.

Please monitor your health in the coming days. You can visit the university’s coronavirus websites for information on COVID-19 symptoms and next steps: https://www.uco.edu/coronavirus/whatsnext#students.

I understand this may cause concern. Following these steps, though, helps us reduce opportunities for the virus to spread on campus. Please continue to wear a face mask when around others.

Thank you for your dedication to your studies and the health and well-being of your fellow Bronchos.

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