

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ALL-EMPLOYEES MEMORANDUM**

DATE: JANUARY 5, 2022

UPDATED RETURN-TO-WORK PROTOCOLS

***REFLECTING JANUARY 4, 2022 NYS REVISED
INTERIM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE GUIDANCE**

Last night the NYS Department of Health again updated their Interim Isolation & Quarantine Guidance (released January 4, 2022).

ALL EMPLOYEES, vaccinated or unvaccinated, WHO TEST POSITIVE must *isolate* for 5 days. Employees should return to work after day 5 of their isolation period provided they:

- have not had a fever for at least 24 hours;
- symptoms have resolved or have improved;
- wear a well-fitting mask while around others for an additional 5 days.

For employees who are exposed to COVID-19:

- If not fully vaccinated *quarantine* for 5 days, return to work and wear a well-fitting mask while around others for an additional 5 days.
- If fully vaccinated and NOT boosted and eligible for a booster, *quarantine* for 5 days, return to work and wear a well-fitting mask while around others for an additional 5 days.
- If fully vaccinated and boosted (with the booster at least 2 weeks before the first date of exposure), no quarantine is required, but these employees should wear a well-fitting mask while around others for 10 days after the last date of exposure.

It is recommended, but not required, that all employees test on/about day 5 after any COVID exposure. However, if symptomatic within that 5-day period, employees should test immediately. If test result is positive, employees must begin an isolation period of at least 5 days as referenced above.

While at work, employees are reminded of the following:

- Employees should practice social distancing from co-workers at all times (including breaks and meals) except when job duties do not permit such distancing.
- If employees must remove their respirator or well-fitting facemask, for example, in order to eat or drink, they should separate themselves from others.
- Cloth masks are not recommended. Your department will supply KN95 or surgical masks if needed.
- Employees should self-monitor for symptoms and seek re-evaluation from a healthcare provider if symptoms recur or worsen.

EMPLOYEE TESTING

As a reminder, Suffolk County offers **free rapid, drive-through COVID-19 testing** for active employees, their dependents and retirees as follows:

Smith Point County Park every Saturday throughout February from **8AM – 4PM**. No appointment is necessary and employees/retirees and their dependents will be tested at their vehicles.

- **Saturday, January 8, 2022**
- **Saturday, January 15, 2022**
- **Saturday, January 22, 2022**
- **Saturday, January 29, 2022**
- **Saturday, February 5, 2022**
- **Saturday, February 12, 2022**
- **Saturday, February 19, 2022**
- **Saturday, February 26, 2022**

In addition, every Wednesday starting TODAY January 5th and throughout February, we will operate another drive-thru testing site, at the **Suffolk County Fire Academy, located at 102 East Ave, Yaphank** from **8AM-4PM**. No appointment is necessary and employees/retirees and their dependents will be tested at their vehicles.

- **Wednesday, January 5, 2022**
- **Wednesday, January 12, 2022**
- **Wednesday, January 19, 2022**
- **Wednesday, January 26, 2022**
- **Wednesday, February 2, 2022**
- **Wednesday, February 9, 2022**
- **Wednesday, February 16, 2022**
- **Wednesday, February 23, 2022**

Employees/dependents/retirees seeking testing at these locations must present either:

- An employee identification card,
- a paystub, or
- a Suffolk EMHP insurance card.

We will share any additional expanded testing offerings as they become available.

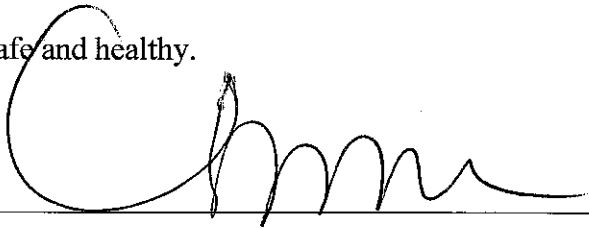
Home Tests:

As an additional accommodation, employees who have tested positive using a home test may apply for COVID-19 leave without obtaining a follow-up positive result from a medical professional, however, the employee must report their positive at-home test result and obtain an isolation order through the Department of Health portal at:

<https://suffolkcountyny.force.com/public/request/DOHSCVHOMETEST/> and upload a photo of the positive home test through the portal. Please write the date and name of the employee on the test itself when submitting a photo. *Note that home tests will only be accepted for the month of January 2022 and the administration will revisit this policy next month.

For any questions please contact your department's payroll representative.

Thank you for your patience, please stay safe and healthy.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Black', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

**LISA BLACK
CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

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ONE COPY PER EMPLOYEE**