

9-29-2020

Forward Together Update [New Quarantine Guidelines from IDPH], September 29, 2020

University of Northern Iowa

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University of Northern Iowa

Forward Together Update—9/29/20

Iowa health officials announce change to quarantine guidelines

UNI is now following new guidelines from the Iowa Department of Public Health that say close contacts of COVID-positive cases will no longer need to quarantine for 14 days if a face covering was consistently and correctly worn by both people during the exposure.

The IDPH also announced that people currently in quarantine may discontinue it if both people were wearing a face mask during the time of exposure. This guidance does not apply to people who are sick or have tested positive for COVID-19. The Student Health Clinic and the Department of Residence are working to identify and notify students who no longer need to quarantine under these new guidelines.

The changes were made based on observations that contacts were much less likely to develop an illness or test positive when both were wearing masks at the time of the exposure, the department said. The new guidance does not include individuals wearing only face shields.

Health officials say other recommendations such as social distancing, staying home when you are sick and frequently washing or disinfecting hands continue to be important practices to help prevent the spread of the virus.


COVID-19 Response: When to Quarantine

For Business, Education, and Child Care Settings

Everyone Masked


When a masked individual tests positive and close contacts were wearing masks...

ISOLATE



COVID Positive

SELF-MONITOR




Close Contacts

Close Contacts Masked


When an unmasked individual tests positive and close contacts were wearing masks...

ISOLATE



COVID Positive

QUARANTINE




Close Contacts

Some Close Contacts Masked


When a masked individual tests positive and **SOME** close contacts were wearing masks...

ISOLATE




COVID Positive

QUARANTINE




SELF-MONITOR



No One Masked


When an unmasked individual tests positive and close contacts were **NOT** wearing masks...

ISOLATE



COVID Positive

QUARANTINE



Close Contacts

University of Northern Iowa.

Have questions? Reach out to us

Students seeking answers to questions about COVID-19-related issues should email us at forwardtogether@uni.edu.

You can also find resources and information about COVID-19 on the [Forward Together website](#).

