

MSHSAA Position – Exposures and Quarantine – (October 13, 2021)

- **New Guidance:** The Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) and the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) issued new guidance on Friday, October 8, 2021 entitled “[Guidance for Assessing COVID-19 Exposures and Defining Close Contacts in a School Setting.](#)” This guidance provides a new, fourth option (“Test to Stay”) in the assessment procedures. **MSHSAA recognizes this DHSS/DESE guidance assessment procedure for defining close contacts and determining quarantine requirements as the statewide minimum for determining participation of students in interscholastic competition.** MSHSAA member schools may follow this guidance from DHSS/DESE and not be in violation of the former MSHSAA policy to follow Local County Health Department requirements.
- **Graphics for Assessing Exposures:** You may find two helpful DHSS/DESE graphics for assessing exposures here: [Flow Chart](#) and [Guidance Summary](#)
- **Positive Tests:** As a reminder, there is a MSHSAA mandate in place for students that “test positive” for Covid-19. This mandate requires a student to quarantine, complete an evaluation by a physician and follow a five-stage return to play protocol. (See Covid-19 Return to Play Form posted on the [Sports Medicine tab.](#))

Thank you for your attention. If you have specific questions, please refer to the Sports Medicine page of the MSHSAA website, or contact our office.