



COVID-19 Procedure and Protocol for Education Department: Programs and Families

Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

Administratively approved August 16, 2021

Introduction:

The WTGH(A) Education Department has and will continue to prioritize student safety in our programs, and that is especially true during the COVID-19 pandemic. We ask for everyone's cooperation to create a safe and healthy space for our Tribal youth as we begin to offer in-person programming for the first time since the initial lockdown. This is a *living document*, meaning its content are subject to change to reflect the health climate around us. Please review this document and sign the acknowledgement as part of your program registration packet.

Expectation for Program Students:

- *If a student has been part of an in-person, non-Tribal program* that ended within 10 days of the start of the Tribal program, they must submit a negative COVID-19 test that is within 3 calendar days of their first day in the Tribal program.
- *If a student has been out-of-state* and arrived back within 10 days of the start of the Tribal program, they must submit a negative COVID-19 test that is with 3 calendar days of their first day in the Tribal program.
- Upon arrival to the program, students will check-in with staff and complete a temperature scan. A temperature over **100°F** (or **38°C**) indicates a fever.
- Students will wash and sanitize their hands after arriving to the program, before/after snack, and before/after using program-provided materials.
- All students are to wear a mask covering the nose and mouth at all times (including outdoors) except for when eating or drinking, and during certain activities that require physical intensity. Staff will inform students of these times.
- Students will follow social distancing markers and maintain 6 feet of distance as best as possible.
- Students will have a storage tote to use as their cubby, and these will be placed at least 6 feet of distance apart to allow for social distancing.
- The Tribal program will try to take place outdoors as much as possible. Please dress appropriately and consider leaving an extra jacket/sweater, a pair of outdoor shoes, and any topical medications (sunscreen or bug spray) at the program.
- If any student begins to show COVID-19 symptoms during the day, their parent/guardian will be informed immediately for pick-up. They must follow-up with the Tribal Clinic for testing or another testing site. If the test is positive, they must follow the isolation process described on the next page.

Expectation for Program Parents:

- Parents **must** keep Department Staff up-to-date regarding both their and their child's exposure to COVID-19. This is for the safety of all families and staff.
- Parents are responsible for keeping the Department Staff informed of any symptoms (related to COVID-19 or otherwise) that their child may be exhibiting.
- Pick-up will be staggered; only one family may exit the vehicle at a time. Please remain by your vehicle and allow your child(ren) to come to you.

Expectation for Program Staff:

- Families will be informed if they or their child has been exposed.
- In the event of exposure, the program space will be disinfected and local health boards will be notified.

Protocol for Families in the Event of Exposure:

I/my child/someone in my household has COVID-19 symptoms.

- Inform the Education Department staff as soon as possible, **even if you are vaccinated**. Please give us a timeline in case other children or staff could have been exposed.
- If you think you/your child/someone in your household **has COVID-19 and are not fully vaccinated**, please **isolate**. That means to:
 - Stay home and stay away from others even in your house at least 10 days from when you first had symptoms
 - Use a separate bedroom and bathroom if you can
 - Do not share any household items (cups, towels, plates, etc.)
 - Wear a mask around those in your house if you can
- Follow-up with a COVID-19 screening test.
 - Call the testing site, such as the Tribal Clinic (508-645-9265 x126), and to arrange a test and inform them of your situation and/or symptoms.
- Your child may return to our program **after**:
 - At least 10 days from when they first had symptoms **and**
 - At least 24 hours after no fever (temperature is within the **97°F (36.1°C) to 99°F (37.2°C)** range) and no fever medication **and**
 - After other COVID-19 symptoms are improving (loss of taste and smell may continue for weeks or months, but other symptoms should show improvement).

My child has been exposed to COVID-19.

- If you have been informed that your child was **exposed to COVID-19**, please **quarantine**. That means to:
 - Stay home and stay away from others even in your house if possible
 - Remain at home at least 7 days—depending on the scenarios below—from the date of exposure
 - Use a separate bedroom and bathroom if you can
 - Do not share any household items (cups, towels, plates, etc.)
 - Wear a mask around those in your house if you can
 - Stay away from those who are at high risk for COVID-19: older adults and people with medical problems
- If this is *before* their arrival at the Tribal program, please contact the Education Department staff to inform them as well as the timeline of the exposure or diagnosis.
- If this occurs at the Tribal program, you will be notified immediately and we expect you to pick up your child promptly. We will follow the cleaning guidelines to disinfect the program space and inform local health boards.
- Inform the Education Department Staff and any other school or program staff that your child has recently been in contact with. In the event that we must inform other families of exposure, staff will maintain you and your child's privacy; names will not be mentioned.

Scenarios for Returning to Tribal Program After Quarantine:

- **Scenario 1:** Quarantine can end on day 10 without testing if no symptoms have been reported during quarantine
- **Scenario 2:** Quarantine can end on day 7 with a negative COVID-19 test result. The sample can be collected and tested within 48 hours of symptom onset, but quarantine must last at least 7 days from the first date of symptoms
- **The following stipulations must also be met to end quarantine:**
 - No clinical evidence of COVID-19 has been elicited by daily symptom monitoring during the entirety of quarantine up to the time at which quarantine is discontinued; and,
 - Daily symptom monitoring continues through quarantine Day 14; and,
 - People are counseled regarding the need to adhere strictly through quarantine Day 14 to all recommended interventions

Protecting Yourself and Others:

- **Stay home when you need to**
 - If you have COVID-19 symptoms (fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea) or if you have tested positive for COVID-19, stay home.
 - Refer to instructions above if you have COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms
 - If you have a sick family member or if you have had contact with someone who has COVID-19, tell your direct supervisor. Then begin the quarantine process.
- **Pay close attention to your health**
 - Be on watch for development of symptoms
 - Take your temperature if you start having symptoms (avoid taking your temperature after exercise or after taking medications such as acetaminophen which may raise your temperature)
 - If you have symptoms such as the ones listed above, you may have COVID-19. Notify your doctor and your supervisor. Do not come in to work. Most people have mild illness and are able to recover at home.
 - If you have difficulty breathing, new confusion, trouble waking or staying awake, blue face or lips, or chest pain, seek medical care immediately
- **Wear a mask**
 - In public settings and when interacting with others, wear a mask
 - Stay 6 feet apart. Social distancing is still necessary even with masks
- **Practice social distancing**
 - When interacting with others, wear a mask and stay 6 feet apart.
 - Avoid close contact with others as much as possible on your way to work or school. Try to drive alone if you can.
 - Try to meet with others virtually or over the phone instead of in person
- **Wash your hands throughout the day**
 - Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer if you do not have access to soap and water. Ensure hand sanitizer has at least 60% alcohol. Use soap and water if your hands are visibly dirty
 - Do not touch any area of your face if you have not washed your hands
- **Cover your coughs and sneezes**
 - Use your tissue or the inside of your elbow to cover your coughs and sneezes
 - Discard tissues in a no touch trash can and immediately wash hands afterward
- **Clean and disinfect shared spaces**
 - Clean workstations, handrails, doorknobs, telephones, toys, and other frequently touched objects and areas consistently.
- **Get this year's flu shot**
 - The flu shot does not protect against COVID-19, but it does protect against influenza—another severe respiratory disease
 - Getting the flu shot can help ensure we do not overwhelm health care facilities with both the flu and COVID-19 and can keep you from getting sick