

The Center is receiving a large number of questions related to what is required for a student or staff member to return to school if sent home with symptoms of COVID-19, as listed in the NYSDOH and NYSED Reopening Guidance.

An [FAQ](#) was posted on NYSED's website on 7/22/20 to answer this question. The same answer is also in the [NYS Department of Health Reopening Guidance](#) on page 3.

The NYSDOH has confirmed with Center staff that the **comma** between the words: (health care provider note clearing a person to return to school), negative COVID-19 testing, means **BOTH** items are **required** in order to return to school.

THIS IS FROM THE NYSED 7/22/20 FAQ

Return to School After Illness

Q. What is required in order for students and staff who had symptoms of COVID-19 to return to school (NYSED Guidance p. 40)

A. Schools must establish policies in consultation with the local health department(s) about the requirements for determining when individuals, particularly students, who screen positive for COVID-19 symptoms can return to the in-person learning environment. **This returning to learning protocol must include at a minimum, documentation of evaluation by a health care provider (health care provider note clearing a person to return to school), negative COVID-19 testing, and symptom resolution, or if COVID-19 positive, release from isolation as required by DOH and NYSED Guidance p. 40.**