

Utah County Health Department COVID-19 Update September 14, 2021

Parents/Guardians:

Due to the volume of COVID-19 cases among school-aged children in Utah County, Utah County Health Department (UCHD) is working with the Utah Department of Health to start Automatic Contact Tracing (ACTS) for minors. This will offer faster and convenient notifications to parents with an automated email or text message.

ACTS will help us enhance our regular contact tracing efforts (i.e. school exposure letters, phone calls) for students in kindergarten through sixth grade as they are not yet eligible for COVID-19 vaccination.

On a temporary basis, UCHD will primarily rely on ACTS for those in seventh through twelfth grades.

The ACTS text or email will come from Utah public health contact tracing teams and include a link to a form which will ask you about your student's symptoms and who else may be at risk for getting COVID-19. The form and information you provide to the health department is stored on a secure database. The information collected on the form is the same information a contact tracer would ask if they were to interview you about your student over the phone. This helps UCHD know who else may be at risk for getting COVID-19. See additional details concerning ACTS on the Utah Department of Health website at: coronavirus.utah.gov/contact-tracing

UCHD continues to encourage school children to wear a mask when indoors at school. In addition, we encourage eligible students to be vaccinated. These prevention measures will reduce risk and help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms, we ask that they are tested and have your child stay home until a negative test is confirmed. School dashboards will continue to be updated. Please monitor your school district website for current case counts.

We appreciate the continued COVID-19 precautions taken by parents and school staff. Utah has the reputation for helping one another. Working together and following these precautions we can help slow the spread of COVID-19. We all desire to keep our schools open with a safe learning environment.

UCHD COVID Helpline: 801-851-4357