

Virginia Department of Health: Recommendations for Meat and Poultry Plant Workers Tested for COVID-19

COVID-19 PCR Test Result	Worker's Health Status	Public Health Recommendations
Positive	Symptomatic	<p>Worker is excluded from workforce and isolated from others.</p> <p>Return to work based on CDC's symptom-based criteria for discontinuation of isolation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; <i>and,</i> • At least 24 hours have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of other symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).
Positive	Asymptomatic	<p>Worker is excluded from workforce and quarantined from others. Self-monitor for symptom development.</p> <p>Return to work based on CDC's time-based criteria for discontinuation of isolation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 10 days have passed since the date of the positive COVID-19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test. • If they develop symptoms, then the symptom-based strategy should be used.
Negative	Symptomatic	<p>Worker is excluded from workforce and isolated from others.</p> <p>If an alternate diagnosis is provided, return to work criteria should be based on that diagnosis. In the absence of an alternate diagnosis, return to work based on CDC's symptom-based criteria for discontinuation of isolation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; <i>and,</i> • At least 24 hours have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of other symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).
Negative	Asymptomatic, assessed as a case contact	<p>Ideally, worker is excluded from workforce and quarantined from others for 14 days after exposure.</p> <p>If necessary for maintaining critical infrastructure capacity, continue working following CDC and VDH Guidance for Meat and Poultry Processing Plant Workers.</p> <p>Self-monitor for symptom development. Persons who develop symptoms should be isolated and the symptom-based strategy for return to work should be used.</p>
Negative	Asymptomatic, assessed as unexposed	<p>Continue working following CDC and VDH Guidance for Meat and Poultry Processing Plant Workers.</p> <p>Self-monitor for symptom development. Persons who develop symptoms should be isolated and the symptom-based strategy for return to work should be used.</p>