



1/2/2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Health Departments & Schools

FROM: Communicable Disease Section

RE: Pending Changes to Schools Guidance regarding Length of Exclusion following an COVID-19 Infection or Exposure

On December 30th, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) [announced](#) that **schools should continue to follow the current IDPH [COVID-19 School Guidance](#)**, including exclusion time frames for COVID cases or persons exposed to cases. IDPH has adopted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recommendation to reduce the number of days for isolation and quarantine **for the general public only so far**.

The CDC expects to issue updated guidance for school settings shortly. We understand that you are eager for this guidance, and we share your sense of urgency. At this time, please continue to follow the guidance currently in place. IDPH and ISBE will work to update the School Guidance as applicable as soon as we know more.