

Rhode Island COVID-19 Shelter/Outreach Health Screening Tool

Symptoms Quick Guide

Become familiar with symptoms of COVID-19 and how they differ from the Flu and allergies.

COVID-19	FLU	ALLERGIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cough ✓ Shortness of Breath <p>Or at least two of these:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fever ✓ Chills ✓ Repeated shaking with chills ✓ Muscle pain ✓ Headache ✓ Sore throat ✓ New loss of taste or smell <p>*Symptoms occur 2-14 days after exposure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fever ✓ Cough ✓ Sore Throat ✓ Headaches ✓ Body / Muscle Aches ✓ Runny / Stuffy Nose ✓ Fatigue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sneezing ✓ Coughing ✓ Runny Nose ✓ Scratchy Throat ✓ Itchy / Red / Watery Eyes

Be advised, any of the following severe symptoms should be addressed immediately by calling 911:

- Extremely difficult breathing (not being able to speak without gasping for air)
- Bluish lips or face
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- Severe persistent dizziness or lightheadedness
- New confusion, or inability to arouse
- New seizure or seizures that won't stop

Screening Questionnaire

“To keep folks healthy and connect people to care they need, we are asking everyone these questions.”

1. Do you think you have a fever? YES / NO

- If you have access to a thermometer, use that to confirm rather than relying on self-report. A fever is a temperature over 100.4 degrees.

2. Do you have a new cough or a cough that's getting worse? YES / NO

- If YES, AND the client has a fever, client should be ISOLATED and given a mask, if available.
- Proceed to instructions on the next page to contact the client's Primary Care Physician (PCP) or the RI Department of Health for additional screening/guidance.

3. Have you been nauseated or experienced vomiting or diarrhea? YES / NO

- If YES, AND the client has fever client should be ISOLATED and given a mask, if available.
- Proceed to instructions on the next page to contact the client's Primary Care Physician (PCP) or the RI Department of Health for additional screening/guidance.

4. Do you have new or worsening shortness of breath / difficulty breathing? YES / NO

- If YES and the client has fever client should be ISOLATED and given a mask, if available.
- Proceed to instructions on the next page to contact the client's Primary Care Physician (PCP) or the RI Department of Health for additional screening/guidance.
- **If the client appears to be in distress, please call 911.**

5. Do you have a blood disorder, kidney, liver, heart or lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, diabetes, severe obesity (a body mass index of 40 or higher), high blood pressure, or any immunosuppressant illnesses? YES / NO

- If YES but client does not have any of the symptoms above, client may remain in shelter; check on these clients frequently to ensure they do not become sick or consider moving these clients to alternate sites (if available) to limit potential exposure.
- If YES and client has fever AND one or more of the other symptoms above, client should be ISOLATED and given a mask, if available.
- Proceed to instructions on the next page to contact the client's Primary Care Physician (PCP) or the RI Department of Health for additional screening/guidance.

If **NO** to all questions, client can enter shelter. If client can enter shelter then STOP, you do not need to continue the screening tool for a client entering shelter.

If the tool indicates the client may not be able to safely enter shelter, then continue below.

Connecting a client to additional screening:

If the COVID Screening Tool indicates the client should contact their Primary Care Physician (PCP) or the RI Department of Health (DOH) follow this protocol to connect them to additional screening:

If the client has a Primary Care Physician (PCP):

1. Call the PCP and inform them that a client **is homeless and in a congregate shelter setting** and is having COVID-19 symptoms, has no access to transportation and needs further screening.
2. The PCP will conduct additional screening over the phone and determine if the client needs testing.
3. If it is determined that the client needs testing, the primary care physician will contact the RI Department of Health to arrange for transportation to testing.

If the client does NOT have a PCP:

1. Please gather the following information on the client:
Location: _____ Date of Birth and Age: _____
Name: _____ Gender: _____
Client Phone/Email: _____
Emergency Contact Name and Phone: _____
2. Call the **RI Department of Health at (401) 222-2577**. Inform them that a client **is homeless and in a congregate shelter setting** and is having COVID-19 symptoms and that the client cannot self-transport to a medical facility for testing.
3. Additional screening will be conducted by the RIDOH over the phone to determine if the client needs testing.
4. If the RIDOH determines the client needs testing, RIDOH will arrange for transportation to get the client tested.

What happens after a client is tested?

1. After the testing is complete, if the client has no option to safely self-quarantine while test results are pending, the RI Department of Health will assist the client to access a safe quarantine facility (in a hotel). Transportation to the quarantine housing will be coordinated by RIDOH.
2. Once in the quarantine isolation facility, the client will receive supportive services, including basic needs such as food and water, while they wait for their test results.
 - If the test results are positive, the client will remain in the hotel under isolation, with supportive services until they are cleared by a medical professional, at which point they will be discharged.
 - If the results are negative, the client will be discharged.