



HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

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Voice/Relay

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TO: Howard County Employees

FROM: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: Update on Quarantine Guidelines

DATE: December 7, 2020

This communication was sent via global email to all Howard County employees on Monday, December 7, 2020 at 3:09 p.m.

Dear Employees,

The Center for Disease Control and the Maryland Department of Health have updated the guidelines on COVID-19 quarantine for employees who have been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19. Under the new guidelines, an asymptomatic employee can end their quarantine after 7 days if no symptoms were reported during quarantine and they had a negative test after day 5 of quarantine.

An employee may also return from quarantine after day 10 without having been tested as long as there were no symptoms during the 10-day period of quarantine.

Local Health Departments are still the primary agencies responsible for contact tracing and any guidance or quarantine recommendations made by the health department will supersede these guidelines.

Additionally, in certain COVID related situations, I am authorizing employees who do not have leave and do not qualify for leave under the Family First Coronavirus Relief Act to go into a negative leave balance and repay the leave with future accruals. Appointing authorities must approve all requests from employees to go into negative leave balances.

If you have any questions regarding this new guidance please contact John Peterson at X4439.

Thank you.