

BASE Health & Safety Guidelines

As a state-licensed program, The Hamilton Area YMCA BASE Program must comply with the Health and Safety Requirements on COVID-19 as mandated by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF).

Admission/Exclusion to BASE Program Due to Symptoms of Illness

Screening at Entry

Health Screenings will be done daily at Entry to the program by a YMCA staff member. Questions will be asked of the parent/guardian at Drop Off. Children who exhibit any of the following symptoms will not be admitted to the program:

One of the following symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell

Two or more of the following symptoms:

- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Children showing any signs of illness will not be admitted to the program. It is a danger to other children and staff members in our program. If Parents/Guardians have any doubts about their child's health, they are asked to call the Site Cell Phone to be sure their child may attend. If a child becomes ill while attending the Program, we will notify the parent or guardian immediately, and it is necessary that the child be picked up within one hour of notification.

Exclusion from Program

Any staff member or child showing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 such as fever, coughing, shortness of breath or they have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the past 5 days, they are excluded from the program.

We ask that all parents and staff let us know of any potential exposure immediately. A potential exposure means being a household contact or having close contact within 6 feet of an individual with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes. If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a child or an adult who has been present in the BASE program, we will immediately inform the School, the Hamilton Township Division of Health and close contacts.

Children and staff who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and not showing symptoms, are exempt from exclusion.

Response Procedures for COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposure

Any confirmed or suspected exposure to COVID-19 occurring in the BASE program will be immediately reported to both the local department of health and the Department of Children and Families, Office of Licensing.

Children or staff members who develop symptoms of COVID-19 while at the BASE Program

If a child or staff member develops symptoms of COVID-19 while at the program (e.g. fever of 100.4 or higher, cough, shortness of breath), the person will be immediately separated from the well people until the ill person can leave the Program. An area will be designated in the BASE Program for an ill child that must be separated from the group. If the child has symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g. fever, cough, shortness of breath), the staff member waiting with the child will remain as far away as safely possible from the child, preferably, 6 feet. The employee or ill child's parent is instructed to inform the Program immediately if the person is diagnosed with COVID-19.

Children or staff members who test positive for COVID-19

If a child or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, we will immediately contact the Department of Health for guidance. Health officials will provide direction on next steps.

All areas and equipment used by the infected person, and persons potentially exposed to that person, will be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with CDC guidance referenced above.

Returning to the BASE Program After COVID-19 Diagnosis or Exposure

If a staff member or child contracts or is unvaccinated and exposed to COVID-19, they cannot be admitted to the Program again until the criteria for lifting transmission based precautions and home isolation have been met. Those criteria are included in the Department of Health's guidance available on our website www.hamiltonymca.org