

Fever Protocol: Criteria for Excluding Students from School Who Present with a Fever

School nurses will send students home when a temperature reading is 100.4° F (38.0° C) or higher.

If a student's temperature is in the 100.0° to 100.4° range:

- 1) The nurse may use professional discretion in determining to exclude a student if the student appears ill or the school or class is experiencing an outbreak of an infectious illness.
- 2) The nurse may have the student rest for 10 to 15 minutes and check the temperature again. If the second temperature reading is less than 100 and the student does not appear ill, they may return to class.

Students sent home with a fever may not return to school until they are fever-free for 24 continuous hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen.

Advise parents to not administer aspirin to their children due to the risk of [Reye Syndrome](#).

Note: Due to a statewide effort to maximize public school attendance, and in keeping with the [CDC's definition of fever](#) (also supported by the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#)), advise parents to not send students to school with a temperature of 100.4 or higher.