



# CORONAVIRUS

## UPDATE

CDC

## COVID-19 Update, 8/21

August 21, 2020 | [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19)

### Status Update as of 8/21 from ADH Website:

[View the ADH COVID-19 Dashboard here.](#)

- Confirmed cumulative cases in Arkansas - 55,135
- Active cases - 5,854
- Recovered patients - 49,135
- New cases since 8/20 - 887
- Deaths - 663
- Patients in the hospital - 509
- Patients on ventilators - 120

### Flowchart for Symptomatic K-12 and AAA Return to Athletics

The Arkansas Department of Health has released two documents that can help physicians who have patients that are attending school and participating in athletics:

[This flowchart is for physicians to follow who have K-12 students or staff](#)

[who have SYMPTOMS consistent with COVID-19](#). It was developed by ADH physicians in consultation with school nurses, infectious disease doctors and community physicians. ADH asks physicians evaluating such symptomatic students to have a low threshold for testing for COVID-19.

At present, ADH has a limited supply of Rapid (Point of Care) Antigen or PCR tests at some Local Health Units (LHU), and you may inquire of the LHU nearest you for availability, if you do not have a rapid test available at your clinic. We are planning to have Point of Care testing available at all LHUs soon.

Please also note that K-12 students and staff can receive priority standard PCR testing at LHUs (please have patients contact the LHU prior to arrival). These tests will be sent to ADH's Public Health Lab and run as a priority, which may be a good option for your K-12 patient if testing through your normal mechanisms is having slow turnaround times.

We also want to encourage close communication between physicians and the personnel at the school your patient attends, such as the school nurse and school's Point Of Contact for COVID-19, regarding COVID-19 diagnosis or other illness with which you are diagnosing the patient. Clinicians with questions about this flowchart can call the ADH Physicians COVID-19 line at 1-844-930-3023."

[Download the document here.](#)

---

The Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) has released the [COVID-19 Clearance Form](#) for those students who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are wanting to return to athletics. Due to the concern for myocarditis associated with COVID-19, every youth diagnosed with COVID-19 must be cleared by a medical provider before returning to practice and competition.

This form will help you as the physician know the criteria needed to hopefully ensure a safe return to athletics. We want to be clear that even when ADH releases a student from isolation, the student still needs a medical evaluation before being allowed to return to athletics.

This document also outlines a Graduated Return to Play (GRTP) protocol that sports medicine physicians recommend and AAA requires even after receiving medical clearance to resume athletic activity. We hope you will find this document helpful.

For questions about this document, please contact the AAA at 501-955-2500.

[Download the form here.](#)

---



View our updated information on personal protective equipment at [ARKMED.org/ppe](https://www.arkmed.org/ppe) or visit [arkansasready.com/ppe](https://arkansasready.com/ppe) for Arkansas PPE vendors.



View the latest information from insurance carriers, HIPAA, and other sources on telemedicine during the COVID-19 crisis at [ARKMED.org/telemedicine](https://www.arkmed.org/telemedicine)



We've compiled all of the financial resources that you may need for your clinic or practice during the COVID-19 crisis at <https://www.arkmed.org/financial-assistance-during-covid-19/>.

[Join our COVID-19 Mailing List](#)

## Got Questions? Let Us Help.

The Arkansas Medical Society is here to serve our physician members and their medical teams. On our website, we have a place that you can send us questions or share what you're experiencing. Visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19) and click on the Got Questions box. We will respond to your question as soon as possible. Thank you for your hard work and together we will make it through this crisis.

For more AMS COVID-19 Resources, visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19).

Arkansas Medical  
Society [ARKMED.org](https://www.arkmed.org)

