

Stopping COVID-19 in its tracks



What does a contact tracer do?

The Hawai'i Department of Health's contact tracers protect the community from the spread of COVID-19 by locating everyone who comes in close contact with a person who has tested positive. Tracers notify and interview those who may have been exposed without revealing the COVID-positive person's identity. Successful tracing relies on a partnership between tracers and those who are interviewed. Contact tracers also offer education and resources to those required to isolate or quarantine.



Person who has tested positive is required to isolate until no longer contagious

If a person tests positive for COVID-19, their healthcare provider and lab will inform DOH.

A tracer will interview that person to learn who may have been exposed while that person was contagious.

They will create a list of **close contacts** that may include family members, neighbors, coworkers, and others who had face-to-face contact for 10 to 30 minutes or longer with the person who tested positive.



Close contacts are required to stay at home in quarantine and to avoid all interactions with other people for 14 days.



If a contact develops COVID-like symptoms (fever plus cough or shortness of breath), they may be tested. If they test positive, the contact tracing cycle repeats. Their close contacts will be monitored for symptoms and will need to stay at home for 14 days.



Those who are not traced may spread the virus to new contacts. Thank you for cooperating with your tracer to locate every possible contact.



A contact could become contagious without any symptoms. After 14 days of quarantine, this contact is no longer considered contagious.