



COVID-19 Testing Support for K-12 Schools

Opt-In to Receive COVID-19 Testing Support for 2021-2022 School Year

This bulletin is being sent to school district administrators, private school administration representatives, and tribal school contacts. Local health officers and tribal health directors are courtesy copied for their situational awareness.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is offering free school-based COVID-19 testing for teachers, staff, students and their families for the 2021-2022 school year. This testing program is intended to help K-12 public, private, and independent charter schools operate safely by supporting their efforts to adopt one of the CDC's recommended strategies for a comprehensive approach to COVID-19 prevention.

Program Participation

Convenient COVID-19 testing support is now available through approved vendors for the 2021-2022 school year. This support may include testing supplies, testing registration, specimen collection, result reporting to local and state health departments, and patient results notification. By working with trusted vendors, schools can focus on what they do best: provide kids with a quality education and foster well-being in their schools. COVID-19 testing at schools also offers convenience for parents and guardians, as they don't need to schedule testing appointments for their children.

Schools will **not** be charged any amount by program vendors.

Participation in the program is voluntary and encourages participating schools and school districts to design their testing program in alignment with the [CDC's Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention](#). Testing programs can include any of the following elements using rapid, point of care antigen tests and/or highly accurate, laboratory-based tests:

- Testing for individuals with symptoms or those who have been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19
- Testing for people who attend or participate in school-based events or activities
- Testing on a routine basis for unvaccinated asymptomatic individuals
- Testing of large groups in the school after there has been a COVID-19 outbreak

To opt-in to this federally funded resource, please complete the [K-12 COVID-19 Testing Program Participation Survey](#) by July 9, 2021 at 5 p.m. A [PDF version of the survey](#) is attached for reference. Schools and districts will still be able to sign up for the program after this

date, but those who complete the survey by July 9 are more likely to have testing services available for their first day of school.

Learn more about this opportunity

DHS invites you to join a webinar on July 1, 2021, at 4 p.m. to learn more about the COVID-19 testing supports available for the 2021-2022 school year through this program. Advance registration is required to receive the Zoom link and call-in information. [Register for the webinar here](#). The webinar will be recorded, made available on the DHS website, and a link to the recording will be sent to all individuals who register.

If you have any questions about this initiative, please reference the information on the [DHS Testing Support for Wisconsin Schools page](#) or contact dhsk12covidtesting@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Please do not reply directly to this email message. If you have a question, please email dhsk12covidtesting@dhs.wisconsin.gov