

COVID-19 Testing FAQ

Where can I consent to the program?

- <https://www.cic-health.com/consent/ma>

Do I have to participate in the Test and Stay program?

- No. Close contacts who qualify for the program will be notified and given the option to participate in Test and Stay or quarantine.
- Even if you have filled out the consent form you do not have to participate if you would prefer to follow the traditional quarantine.

Are there separate consent forms for the various programs?

- No. We have one consent form that includes consent for Surveillance Testing, Test and Stay, as well as, Symptomatic testing.
- At this point we do not have the capability to separate the forms. Please feel free to contact Molly Houghton or Matt D'Andrea with any questions regarding the consent form.

Where will Test and Stay occur?

- Please plan to bring your child to school while participating in Test and Stay. If you are unable to bring your child to school, please notify your school nurse. They will complete the test in your car and wait with you until we have the results (~15 min).
- If the test is negative, they can come into school, if it is positive, they will go home with you.
- Your school nurse will contact you if you are identified as a close contact and will go over proper protocols in regard to this program and or quarantining.

Who is eligible for the Test and Stay program?

- Asymptomatic, unvaccinated individuals who have been a close contact of someone else DURING school.
- Close contacts outside of school (including siblings and parents) do not qualify for this program.

How far in does the nasal swab go?

- Both tests are lower nasal swabs meaning they only enter approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch.
- The test is like the one offered at the IHC Test Center but is NOT the same as the hospital test.

How long do the Test and Stay results take?

- Results will take 15 minutes to develop.

How many days do I have to test in the Test and Stay program if I opt into participating?

- The program will include 5 tests. If the close contact is identified on Monday, then you will test Monday-Friday.
- If the weekend falls in the middle then you will continue to test the next week (For example: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Monday, and Tuesday).

Can I still participate in school sports and other school sponsored activities during Test and Stay?

- Yes. You are “cleared” for school sponsored activities ONLY. Outside of school activities you are expected to quarantine as usual.

Where will pool testing take place?

- As opposed to last year, pool testing will happen in school. Specific protocols may vary from school to school. More information is coming soon.

Can elementary students’ self-swab?

- The test is approved for kindergarteners (age 5) and up to self-swab. Our onsite team will also be there as needed.

What kind of test is used for surveillance testing?

- Like the rapid test the pool test will be a lower nasal swab entering the nasal cavity only $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch.

When will results from the pool testing be received?

- The lab will have the results from pool testing within 24 hours of the samples arriving at the lab.

Is the program required?

- The program is not mandatory; however, the purpose of surveillance testing is to have a representative sample of the school. To make this possible we need as many people to consent as possible.
- No one will be tested UNTIL they have provided consent.

** Surveillance testing will use pool testing. 10 samples will be included in each pool. Everyone will provide two swabs, one for the pool and one individual sample. If a pool is positive the lab will test the individual samples and determine which sample is positive.

Have you ALWAYS dreamed of being part of a COVID-19 testing program? How can you become more involved with the program and make your dream come true??

- **Please reach out to Molly Houghton (molly.houghton@mvyps.org) if you are at all interested in a volunteer or paid position. We would love to have you join our team!**

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