



COVID-19 Testing in Oregon's K-12 Schools: Staff Screening FAQs

(Updated 10-25-2021)

Q: What is the Staff Screening Program?

The Staff Screening Program offers free weekly COVID-19 testing by mail to any unvaccinated public or private K-12 staff.

Q: Who is eligible?

Any public or private K-12 staff, including volunteers, are eligible. Individual staff members must sign up for this program.

Q: How do I sign up?

Individual staff members will need to fill out the form. Click [here](#). This information will be sent to the partner lab for this program. OHA's laboratory partner, Willamette Valley Toxicology will send an onboarding email for their laboratory. This email can take a few days to show up. Once you are fully onboarded it does take about a week for screening testing kits to arrive.

Q: How does a school district sign up all staff that are unvaccinated?

If a school district is wanting their unvaccinated staff to participate, they will need to share this information with their unvaccinated staff.

Q: My school district wants to know the results of my screening test?

Educational Partners will need to consult with their legal consult and work with school staff on receiving results.

Q: Is it voluntary?

Yes. The program is voluntary.

Q: Is there a saliva specimen option for this program?

This program strictly provides nasal swab collection only.

Q: How much will it cost?

The program is free.

Q: What can I expect during the test?

When your test kit arrives, it will include instructions to collect a sample on a gentle nose swab.

Q: How often will I receive an at-home test?

Participating individuals will receive a test in the mail once a week.

Q: How will I receive my results?

Your results will be displayed in your LabDash account. When your results are ready, you will receive an email or text message reminder to log-in and view them.

Q: How long will it take to get my test results?

You will receive your results within 3-5 days.

Q: Will anyone else see my results or personal health information?

Your results and personal health information are confidential and will not be shared with anyone.

Q: If I have been vaccinated, should I participate in this program?

Testing is not recommended for vaccinated K-12 staff because the risk of COVID-19 in vaccinated individuals is very low.

Q: What if I change my mind and don't want to participate in this program?

You can opt-out of the program at any time.

Q: Who should I contact for additional questions?

You can reach out to COVIDScreening.Schools@dhsosha.state.or.us and someone from the Oregon Health Authority will answer your questions.

Q: What should I do if I test positive?

You will receive a call from a case investigator at your local public health authority who will talk with you about how to prevent the spread of the virus, including staying home or at a location provided by public health until the danger has passed; provide health information on how to care for yourself; and share resources available in your community that can support you while you self-isolate.

Q: What should I do if I test negative?

If you test negative, you must still take precautions to keep yourself and others safe. Maintaining physical distancing and wearing a mask are critical.

Q: What should I do if I've been exposed to COVID-19 but am in between receiving my weekly test?

You should contact your health care provider for guidance if you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Q: The email I got from the laboratory wants my health insurance information?

This is a standard question for the patient portal (LabDash) that they use. Please click the box above that indicates you have no insurance and the box that indicates you do not have a government issued ID. You will not be billed for this program.

Q: Can I do weekly testing instead of getting the vaccine for COVID-19?

School staff will need to work with their school district to see if this is an appropriate option for them. For more information regarding the vaccine rule, please click [here](#).

Q: My school district wants to make this mandatory.

Educational partners will need to consult with their legal counsel.

Q: How long does it take to start receiving kits?

Once a staff member is fully onboarded, it will take about a week to get a month supplies worth of screening testing kits.

Q: How do I contact Willamette Valley Toxicology?

WVT customer service line is (541) 368-3050

Q: I have not received any email from LabDash or my testing kits?

Please contact Willamette Valley Toxicology directly at (541) 369-3050

Q: If I have recently tested for COVID-19, can I still participate in the program?

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you will not participate in the screening program for 90 days and will need to communicate with Willamette Valley Toxicology on stopping and starting of kits.

Document accessibility: For individuals with disabilities or individuals who speak a language other than English, OHA can provide information in alternate formats such as translations, large print, or braille. Contact the COVID-19 Communications Unit at 1-971-673-2411, 711 TTY or COVID19.LanguageAccess@dhs.oh.state.or.us.