K-12 Staff Screener FAQ

1. **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.

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

3. **How do I sign up?**
   Individual staff members will need to fill out this form. Staff will then receive a link to create a LabDash account. Upon completion of registration, a screening testing kit will be sent via mail directly to staff.

4. **How does a school district sign up all staff that are unvaccinated?**
   School districts may share enrollment information with their unvaccinated staff. Individual staff members must enroll; school districts may not enroll staff on their behalf.

5. **My school district wants to know the results of my screening test?**
   School districts should consult with their legal counsel and work with school staff directly to verify participation. Individual screening results may not be shared directly with school districts as these constitute protected health information.

6. **Is it voluntary?**
   Yes. The program is voluntary.

7. **How much will it cost?**
   The program is free.

8. **What can I expect during the test?**
   When your test kit arrives, it will include instructions to collect a specimen through a gentle nose swab.

9. **How often will I receive an at-home test?**
   Participating individuals will receive a test in the mail weekly.
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.

How long will it take to get my test results?
You will receive your results within 3-5 days, depending on transit time. Results are typically processed within 24 hours of arriving at the laboratory.

Will anyone else see my results or protected health information?
Your results and protected health information are confidential and will not be shared with anyone. Positive results will be reported to the local public health authority as required by state law.

If I have been vaccinated, should I participate in this program?
Testing is not recommended for vaccinated staff because the risk of COVID-19 in vaccinated individuals is very low.

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.

Who should I contact for additional questions?
You can reach out to COVIDScreening.Schools@dhsoha.state.or.us and someone from the Oregon Health Authority will answer your questions.

What should I do if I test positive?
Please isolate until you 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. Click here for more information regarding positive test results.

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. Please consider vaccination—it is the single most powerful tool we have to prevent severe infection and death from COVID-19.

What should I do if I’ve been exposed to COVID-19 but will not receive my weekly test for several days?
Oregon Health Authority recommends testing within 14 days of an exposure, ideally between days 3 and 5. As long as you have not developed symptoms, you may use your screening test following an exposure. If you have developed symptoms of COVID-19, please do not delay testing.
19. **Will my insurance be billed to participate in this program?**
   The collection of insurance information is a standard question for the LabDash patient portal. Staff should select “No Pay” or “Self-Pay” for this question. Your insurance will not be billed for this program.

20. **Can I do weekly testing instead of getting the vaccine for COVID-19?**
   No, weekly testing is not equivalent to vaccination. Only vaccination reduces the risk of severe illness and death caused by COVID-19. Vaccination mandates do not allow weekly testing as an alternative.

21. **Can a School District make weekly testing mandatory?**
   School districts should consult their legal counsel regarding this question.

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**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 Health Information Center at 1-971-673-2411, 711 TTY or COVID19.LanguageAccess@dhsoha.state.or.us