



## **COVID-19 GUIDANCE**

### **Testing At Home**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### ***What is the Testing At Home program?***

In partnership with Amazon and eMed, one of the nation's leading digital health providers, Colorado is distributing 2 million BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card test kits to teachers, staff, and selected students from from public school districts, charter schools, private schools, and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) from across the state.

#### ***Who is eligible?***

The Testing At Home program is prioritized for teachers, staff, and selected students in the preschool-12 education system, for schools or districts that have opted in to the program. As the program scales up, additional populations will be eligible for the program.

#### ***Which students are eligible?***

CDPHE is providing schools with a limited number of tests to give to symptomatic individuals, including students, to take home for testing. Districts will determine who within their student community are high risk and should consider students with disabilities, those who have difficulty wearing a mask, and those who interact with many service providers (e.g. physical therapy, occupational therapy, etc.).

#### ***How do schools enroll?***

Leaders of school districts and independent schools received a letter gauging their interest and providing them instructions on how to opt in to the program. Schools can continue to enroll.

#### ***Are child care facilities eligible for participating in testing?***

Child care facilities will be eligible for the Testing At Home program shortly. CDPHE will work with the Early Childhood Office of the Colorado Department of Education to engage child care facilities and partners on next steps beginning mid-February.

#### ***Can individuals register or does it need to be completed by the school?***

Opt-in must be completed by the district or school level, at the largest organizing level. For example, a whole district must opt in, rather than individual schools in a district. Additionally, charter organizations that manage multiple schools must opt in for all.

Only individuals who are a part of systems that have opted in to the program will be eligible. If individuals would like to request tests, but their independent school or district has not opted in, they will need to ask their administrators to opt in.

***How much will this cost after the first month? Can the cost be covered by insurance after the first month?***

The first month of the program will be covered by CDPHE. CDPHE is working with FEMA to determine if the cost of the program will be reimbursable by the Federal Government. If so, the program will be at no cost to districts. If FEMA does not reimburse for the program, the cost will be 75% district or school/ 25% CDPHE split. More information to come as is it available. There should be no cost to the individual educator, staff member, or student.

***If I opt-in with the school “cache,” will the first month be covered?***

All costs incurred for the first month are covered by the state. CDPHE is working closely with FEMA to reimburse for the tests. If FEMA does not reimburse the state for this program, future costs will be shared 75% district/school and 25% CDPHE.

***Can a district or independent school opt out?***

The Testing at Home program is operated on a month-to-month basis. Districts and schools have an opt-out window before the next month's order is placed. CDPHE will confirm with each primary point of contact their participation in the program on a monthly basis.

**Testing Kit:**

***Do the tests expire? If so, how long will they last?***

The expiration date is printed on each test and dependent on the manufacture date. Tests should not be used after the expiration date.

***If someone has been vaccinated, should they use this test?***

Individuals should follow the most up-to-date state guidance on testing after being vaccinated.

***Will tests be administered at home or at a site?***

The tests will be administered at home through a telehealth appointment.

***Will school districts need to have their own telehealth provider?***

No, school districts will not need their own telehealth contract. CDPHE holds a contract with a company called eMed to provide all telehealth services to all districts and independent schools that have opted in.

***Can a school nurse train to become a proctor for the program?***

No. All proctors are employed by eMed, the telehealth provider for the program.

***Could the test be used on students and athletic staff immediately before a sports event/game?***

This is not currently a recommended use, however, the state is exploring other point-of-care testing options for this use.

**Ordering, Distribution and Administration:**

***Are order requests automatically refilled?***

All requests are for one order; you will need to make a request each time you need additional tests.

***How will I know if my request has been approved?***

Testing at Home requests will receive a shipping confirmation email.

***Can I request a specific number of tests?***

Tests ship in kits of six and are available to participants every 30 days. Individuals cannot get more than 6 tests per month.

***How do individuals of eligible schools and districts request Testing at Home kits?***

Eligible participants should contact their school administrator.

***How will CDPHE know that I am a staff member/student of a district/school that is eligible for the program?***

Districts and schools are responsible for identifying eligible staff and students and providing a list of those participants to CDPHE. Each entity that opted in will receive an email from CDPHE with a secure form to enter this information. On a monthly basis, opted-in schools or districts will have the opportunity to add and/or remove eligible individuals to the program.

***Are schools allowed to distribute directly to employees and students rather than having Amazon deliver?***

No. All eligible individuals requesting tests will have the tests shipped to their homes. CDPHE will provide a small number of kits that can be given to symptomatic individuals to take home.

***Are there telehealth advisors that speak a variety of languages? Can users request specific language support? What about sign language for the deaf or hard of hearing?***

Currently services are offered in English and Spanish; eMed is currently working with the FDA on expanding the options for services. In the interim, those taking the test can have someone with them to assist with administering the tests if needed.

***Is there a minimum number of interested employees needed in order for our private school to be eligible?***

There is no minimum number of interested participants required to be eligible.

**Results and Reporting:**

***Will school administrators have access to the results? If so, what is the school's responsibility to help teachers follow up on a positive Testing at Home tests to get a PCR test?***

Test results are not shared directly with school administrators. The Abbott Navica App that users will need to download, stores and displays a user's test results. Districts and schools are able to ask staff and students to share their test results visually via the app.

***Who is responsible for reporting results via the Testing At Home program?***

Tests will be completed at home and the eMed telehealth proctors will report results, as required by law, electronically to CDPHE. CDPHE will then share results with appropriate LPHA partners. Educators, staff, students, nor schools will have to collect or report any data.

***What is the Unique ID# and other info required for opting in?***

First and Last Name, mobile phone number, email address, employee/student ID # (this is the Unique ID #), and school. That information is needed to allow those requesting the test to register on the portal and be validated as eligible

***Does Testing at Home detect new COVID-19 variant strains?***

Tests will be able to detect COVID-19 cases caused by variants, but it will not be able to tell an individual which variant caused it.