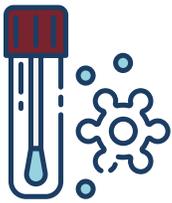


# WHAT PARENTS AND GUARDIANS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COVID-19 TESTING AT SCHOOL

Your school district has partnered with Quidel, a diagnostic health care company, to provide free COVID-19 antigen testing to all students. See below for answers to common questions about the program and the process.



## How does testing work?

Periodically throughout the school year, your student will receive an antigen (or rapid) test, which usually produces results in as little as 10 minutes. Students will complete the test themselves by inserting a small swab into the front of the nose, supervised by testing staff. You'll be notified each time they are tested. If a student is too young to perform, or not comfortable performing, the swab by themselves, a caring Quidel staff member will be available to assist with the sample collection.

## Is testing optional?

Yes — if you wish for your student to be enrolled in regular testing, you can opt them in at no charge to you, by completing the consent form provided to you by your school. Before deciding, please review all the information your student brings home.

## Is testing necessary?

Also yes. While testing is optional, a majority of students must be tested in order to detect early cases and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community. It also helps to keep students learning in-person — if an outbreak occurs because an untested student contracts and spreads the virus, that school may be forced to close or return to remote learning.



## If your student has symptoms of COVID-19 or has been in contact with someone who does, they should not be tested at school.

Sending symptomatic students to school runs the risk of having them transmit the virus to others and causing it to spread. This testing program is meant for students and staff who are asymptomatic, and it will quickly identify cases before they become outbreaks. Used alongside other prevention strategies like distancing and face masks, it can help keep infection rates low and our schools safely open.

For more specific details about the testing process, refer to the “Expectations and Guidelines” sheet.

If you have questions, contact your school's administration or email [DPHCALL@delaware.gov](mailto:DPHCALL@delaware.gov).



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