

Antigen Testing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is Antigen testing?

- Antigen tests are designed to detect proteins from the virus that causes COVID-19 in respiratory specimens, for example nasal swabs.

2. What type of rapid antigen tests will be provided for testing, who is the manufacturer?

- The state is using BD Veritor™ Plus System Tests. These antigen rapid tests can potentially be largely self-administered through a nasal swab and deliver results in 15 minutes. The BD Veritor™ Plus System Test detects the presence of a specific viral antigen, which implies current viral infection. This test kit is a screening tool that identifies the presence of viral antigens (SARS-CoV-2) in the body.

3. What are the differences between an antigen, PCR and antibody test?

- The antigen tests identify the virus by detecting the proteins from the virus.
- The molecular test (RT-PCR) detects the virus's genetic material to see if you have an active coronavirus infection.
- An antibody test looks for antibodies that are made by your immune system in response to a threat such as COVID-19.

4. How accurate is this type of test?

- Analysis showed that BD Veritor plus was 98% accurate.
 - i. sensitivity (true positive rate) of 84%
 - ii. specificity (true negative rate) of 100%.

5. How long does the test take?

- After the test is obtained using a sterile swab in the nasal passages, the test process takes approximately 15 minutes to return a result

6. Can these tests be used on symptomatic individuals?

- No, this test is calibrated specifically for asymptomatic individuals. If your child is presenting any of the COVID-19 symptoms, please contact your health care professional and have your child complete a PCR test as soon as possible.

7. Are consent forms required to administer tests on students or staff?

- Consent forms for students are required for all students. The online consent form can be found [here](#). You can request a paper copy of the consent form from your school administrator.

8. How often would you test my child?

- We are arranging for antigen testing to occur periodically for students participating in the Hybrid Model of instruction and in-person extracurricular activities in all schools and programs in the Christina School District. If you consent, your child may be selected for testing on one or more of these occasions.

9. Do families get charged for the testing?

- No. The antigen tests are being provided free of charge from the State of Delaware and school systems cannot charge for the administration of the tests.

10. Can we offer these tests to students who are currently choosing online learning if they come on campus to take the test?

- The Antigen testing performed will only be available to students attending Hybrid Model of instruction and in-person extracurricular activities. Testing for virtual students can be completed at a community testing site. The Christina School District offers community testing on a weekly basis. Please check the district website for more information.

11. Who will be administering the tests?

- Test Administrator: Only a certified test administrator is authorized to conduct the rapid BD Veritor™ Plus System test procedure. Test administrators will be determined at the district level. A test administrator may be any individual identified by the school system who completes the required training and submits all testing results as required by state and federal law.

12. How are test results shared with the individual being tested?

- If your child was tested, then a written notification will be provided to the student to take home. If your child tests positive, see the next question.

13. What happens if my child tests positive with the antigen test?

- If your child's test results are positive, you will be immediately notified to pick up your child. Your child must have an additional PCR (COVID-19 test) test done within 48 hours to confirm the results. The school will provide you with a location where the PCR test can be performed. Additionally, your child will be moved to a location/room away from other students until your child is picked up from school.
- If your child tests negative on the PCR test, your child can return to school, if you do not take your child for the PCR test, your child must isolate for 10 days before returning to school.

14. What happens when someone tests positive at school?

- A positive student will be isolated in the nurse's office until the student is picked up.
- Close contacts will be notified if it is appropriate.

15. Is the school system responsible for contact tracing of the tests administered?

- The school nurse will work with Delaware Public Health to support contact tracing requirements.

16. Does the test information get shared with the local health department and DSHS or do school systems need to report these cases to the appropriate authority?

- Positive results are reported to Delaware Public Health (DPH), by the tester, and or the School Nurse. The Antigen tester will work with the School Nurses who will initiate any necessary contact tracing.

17. Can staff members be tested using the BD Veritor™ Plus System Tests?

- Yes, staff members can utilize the BD Veritor Plus System as an option, however, the first priority is our students. Staff are encouraged to prioritize by using the at home test option, and onsite testing via Mako Medical. If those options are not available, a limited number of opportunities will be available for staff, who have completed the consent form, and scheduled an appointment for a time after student dismissal. Other testing options can be found [here](#).

If your question was not covered in the above information, please contact your school nurse.