



Coffeyville Public Schools

USD 445

Onsite COVID Testing – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

If your student is currently in quarantine, please contact the COVID Testing Hotline 620-252-1797 to see if testing is available prior to sending your asymptomatic student to school.

Why is the school district planning to conduct COVID-19 testing on-site?

To ensure that our schools can provide the most normal school experience in the classroom with the least amount of disruptions. Students and staff with known exposure can continue in school with daily negative tests versus remaining at home in quarantine. Many school districts in other parts of the state, and here in our area, are doing similar on-site COVID testing of students and staff.

The Test to Stay and Learn plan provides the resources to test susceptible close contacts daily (every 24hrs.) during their quarantine period with the goal of keeping close contacts who test negative On-site and In-Person learning. Participation in this testing strategy effectively reduces or eliminates the need for close contacts to miss in-person school after exposure to a case. Only close contacts who are wearing masks and remain asymptomatic are eligible to remain in school during their quarantine period under this strategy.

For quarantine purposes, close contacts of a case of COVID-19 are still defined as anyone that has been within 6 feet for 10 minutes or longer.

What test will be used in schools and who will administer the tests?

The state of Kansas is providing school districts with COVID-19 rapid tests. Individuals, who have been professionally trained, will administer these tests. The tests will be administered to students for whom we have received prior parent/guardian consent. Specifically, they will be providing Abbott's BinaxNOW COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test for asymptomatic students and the Abbott ID Now Rapid PCR test for symptomatic students. The antigen test involves inserting a

small swab, like a Q-Tip, into the lowermost portion of the nostril. This is a quick nasal swab test of both nostrils and is NOT the deep swab nostril test that is performed at medical facilities and other testing sites. The PCR test uses a nasopharyngeal sample that involves inserting a small swab, with a foam tip, inserted in the nostril a distance that is halfway from the tip of the nose to the ear. More information about the BinaxNOW test can be [found here](#).

Where will the testing take place?

7th through 12th will be tested at the high school clinic and Kindergarten through 6th will be tested at the elementary school clinic.

How long is the testing process expected to take?

The entire process of explaining the test to the child and then performing the swab test generally only a few minutes. Once tested it will take 15 minutes.

When will this onsite testing begin?

Testing of staff and students will begin September 14th, 2021.

If your student is currently in quarantine, please contact COVID Hotline at 620-252-1797 to see if testing is available prior to sending your asymptomatic student to the school.

How do I consent to have my student(s) tested at school?

There is an [online parent/guardian consent form](#) for you to fill out for your student(s). This form was sent to you in a separate email on September 10th, 2021. Students will not be tested without parent/guardian consent.

Why is the rapid antigen and PCR testing being used?

The rationale for using the rapid test instead of the PCR test is that testing will be done on students and staff who are asymptomatic. Rapid tests detect protein fragments specific to the Novel Coronavirus and are non-invasive for students & staff (ie: not deep sinus tests). If the rapid antigen test is positive, we will follow up with a PCR test to detect RNA (genetic material) that is specific to the virus and are the “deep sinus” variety.

What if my child has symptoms of COVID-19? Will they be able to be tested at school?

Yes, if you are symptomatic then you will have to have a PCR test.

Is there a cost for students or staff being tested on-site?

No. All costs associated with the in-district testing will be covered by the state. If you choose to get a COVID-19 test on your own through a different medical provider, you would be responsible for any cost.

How do you decide which students and staff test?

Students and/or staff who are deemed a direct contact of a positive Covid-19 case, and desire to stay in school, will need to submit to a daily test during the duration of the 7-day quarantine. Those who choose not to submit to the voluntary test will be required to complete the 10 -day quarantine at home per Montgomery County Health Department guidelines.

Students and/or staff who are deemed a household contact of a positive Covid-19 case at school, and desire to stay in school, will need to submit to a daily test during the duration of the 17-day quarantine. Those who choose not to submit to the voluntary test will be required to complete the 20 -day quarantine at home per Montgomery County Health Department guidelines.

Who can be tested?

Anyone Kindergarten through 12th with limited capacity at the Preschool.

Can I be present when my PreK-12 child is tested?

For students in grades PreK-12, yes as long as the parent is not in quarantine, in isolation or Covid positive. We will be providing onsite testing at all of our attendance centers at a designated time. For children exhibiting test anxiety, parents and/or guardians will be instructed to pick up their children. Testing will not be offered during such situations.

How can I help prepare my child for the test (especially for younger children)?

You should talk to your child about the testing and watch this video together. We encourage you to tell them that health professionals at school are going to do a test for the virus by rubbing a small cotton swab inside the front part of their nose, in both nostrils. Let them know that the health professionals will need to wear special protective equipment to keep themselves and others safe during the testing process.

This may include a face mask, eye goggles or face shield, an outer gown, and gloves. Please let your child know that they will need to wear their face covering for the testing procedure and will pull the mask down over their mouth during being swabbed. Then they can put their face covering back on. (Parents and peers should also wear a face-covering as they interact with the health professional during the testing procedure). Remind your child that it's okay that the school performs this test and that it's quick, safe, and gentle.

What if I prefer to get my child tested off site?

You have the option to get your child tested by your healthcare provider or at any testing site. In order to be eligible for modified quarantine, there must be verification of daily testing with a negative result from a verified health care entity and/or testing center. Student and staff results need to be provided to your school nurse before the student and or staff member is allowed to return to the building. If it is your intention to test offsite, please notify the COVID Hotline at 620-252-1797 and indicate when your child will be tested.

If my child is considered to be a close contact and I do not consent to the test, will my student be quarantined?

Yes, per state statute USD 445 does not have the option to offer remote learning. USD 445 will follow the Local Health Departments' definition of close contact. Close contact is defined as being within 6-feet of the person for 10-minutes or more.

Can parents/guardians or family members be tested too?

No. Right now, we only have enough tests to accommodate our in-school population.

What happens if a student is positive?

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 with the BinaxNOW you will be notified immediately. A positive antigen test will be followed with a PCR for confirmation, with parental consent. The district will also contact the Montgomery County Department of Health to report your child's positive test result. Your child will need to remain at home until they are cleared to return to school per Montgomery County Department of Health regulations.

For students and families of multilingual learners, will information be available in other languages? If so, how will this be arranged?

Please communicate with the ESOL Director, Lisa Stockton in advance of the testing if you wish to have any of the testing information provided in your family's preferred language.

What if my child is fully vaccinated – Exceptions to quarantine?

Fully vaccinated individuals (two weeks after their second shot) do not have to quarantine after exposure to COVID-19 as long as they remain without symptoms. This means that they can remain On-site and In-Person learning at school. The close contact must wear a mask while indoors throughout the quarantine time frame.

It is recommended by the CDC, KDHE, and Montgomery County Health Department that fully vaccinated individuals get tested 3 to 5 days after exposure even if they do not have symptoms with an additional recommendation by KDHE to re-test 7-10 days after exposure. However, they do not have to isolate themselves at home while waiting for results if they do not have symptoms.

Any asymptomatic student who has recovered in the last 6 months from a documented positive COVID 19 infection is exempt from the 10-day daily testing requirements. However, close contacts must wear a mask while indoors throughout their quarantine timeframe.

At this current time, antibody testing is not accepted as proof of COVID 19 immunity, and will not be used to exclude any student or staff from daily testing requirements or quarantine protocols.

Will my child be required to quarantine if they are a close contact and asymptomatic (no symptoms)?

If a close contact is identified, and they are unvaccinated, the close contact may continue to stay in school if they produce a negative test on a daily period during the time of quarantine and remain asymptomatic (no symptoms). These students must wear a mask while indoors, outdoors(unvaccinated), and throughout the quarantine time frame. Testing is voluntary and not mandatory. This also includes all USD 445 staff who are deemed close contacts. Those who choose not to submit to the voluntary test will be required to complete the 10-day quarantine at home per Montgomery County Health Department guidelines.

Fully vaccinated individuals (14-days after their 2nd dose) do not have to quarantine if they are exposed and are asymptomatic. They will still be required to wear masks while indoors throughout the quarantine time frame.

I have questions about this testing plan. Where can I get more answers?

You are encouraged call your school nurse if you have questions regarding COVID-19 testing.

Additional information:

Students, staff, and teachers exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without other obvious explanations or an alternative diagnosis from a healthcare professional are discouraged from coming to school or will be sent home from school if already in attendance.