Back to School Shipment of Free COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Tests for IL K-12 Public Schools

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is providing a one-time bulk shipment of 1 million over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 rapid antigen tests to K-12 public school districts (outside of Chicago) for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. The tests are provided free of charge.

The tests are intended to supplement testing at your school district for the duration of the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. If more tests are required, districts should plan to independently procure tests. Districts are asked to complete a test request form HERE, by August 26, 2022. Only one request is permitted per district. The tests will be delivered to a single hub location in the district. Districts will then be responsible for distributing the tests to their local schools.

The tests are intended to be distributed or to be administered in the following ways:

1) Providing tests to students with COVID-19 symptoms for at-home use, including the testing of family members or close contacts.

2) Testing of those who may have been exposed while in school.

3) Testing in alignment with the Illinois Test to Stay (T2S) program.

When OTC tests are administered on-site at the school, it is considered diagnostic testing and is therefore subject to point-of-care testing requirements (see on-site testing requirements, below). The tests are NOT intended to be used for regular screening purposes. IDPH continues to provide free weekly screening testing through SHIELD-IL and the Midwest Coordinating Center.

Districts should prepare to receive a one-time bulk shipment of tests by having enough storage room, and by making sure someone is available to receive the shipment during the week selected on the test request form.

Districts will receive an allocated quantity of tests determined by IDPH based on *each individual school's* total student enrollment:

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- Districts with <u>more than 10,000 students</u> will receive between <u>5,000 – 17,000 tests.</u>
- Districts with <u>5,000 – 10,000 students</u> will receive between <u>2,500 – 5,000 tests.</u>
- Districts with <u>2,000- 5,000 students</u> will receive between <u>1,000 – 2,500 tests.</u>
- Districts with <u>500 – 2,000 students</u> will receive between <u>250 – 1,000 tests.</u>
- Districts with <u>less than 500 students</u> will receive <u>up to 250 tests.</u>

Once submitted, test request forms will be reviewed and submitters will receive a confirmation notifying them of the total quantity of tests and shipping information, including the expected delivery date.

<u>Reminder:</u> Tests administered <u>on-site</u> at school are considered diagnostic and subject to <u>all</u> the following:
- Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certification. If you do not have a CLIA waiver, visit the following website for more information: https://www.cms.gov/regulations-and-guidance/legislation/clia/downloads/howobtaincertificateofwaiver.pdf
- A provider order for antigen testing signed by a medical professional. If you do not have a provider order template, email the IDPH Antigen Testing Team for a template at DPH.AntigenTesting@illinois.gov
- Be registered to report all <u>positive</u> test results to the state of Illinois. If you have not yet registered for reporting test results, email the IDPH ELR Response Team at DPH.ELRResp@illinois.gov
- Maintain accurate inventory records using the Inventory Tracking Form shared in the morning email reminder from the IDPH Antigen Testing Team. If you need access to the Inventory Tracking Form, email the IDPH Antigen Testing Team at DPH.AntigenTesting@illinois.gov

 <u>Note:</u> These requirements are covered for schools registered to test with SHIELD.

As always, you are welcome to reach out to the IDPH Antigen Testing Team at DPH.AntigenTesting@illinois.gov with questions or concerns regarding this process.

Thank you for your participation.