

DCPS COVID-19 Testing Information for Parents

DCPS follows DC Health Student Testing Guidance which outlines two testing options for students in DCPS schools. School Nurses will provide both symptomatic and asymptomatic COVID-19 testing to students who have valid consent forms on file. Schools may provide rapid and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) COVID-19 testing to students identified as having potential COVID-19 symptoms while at school and will conduct regular PCR testing of asymptomatic students to help ensure parents and students at their schools remain safe for in-person learning.

Symptomatic Testing Procedures		Asymptomatic Testing Procedures
<p>All students displaying COVID-19 symptoms while at school will be evaluated by the School Nurse on site. If the Nurse determines that the student needs a COVID test, and if the student has a valid symptomatic COVID-19 consent form on file, the School Nurse will immediately conduct a COVID-19 rapid test (and a confirmatory PCR test in some situations) of the symptomatic student. This service is available daily.</p>	<p><i>When are students tested for COVID-19?</i></p>	<p>DC Health will offer regular COVID-19 testing for asymptomatic students through the School Nurse. Weekly, the School Nurse will test a random sample of 10% of the total number of students enrolled for in-person learning.</p>
<p>Parents/guardians must submit the School COVID-19 Testing Consent Form before symptomatic students can be given a rapid or PCR COVID-19 test. Consent only needs to be provided once and is valid for the remainder of the school year.</p>	<p><i>When do I need to provide consent in order for my student to be tested?</i></p>	<p>Parents/guardians must submit the Asymptomatic Persons School COVID-19 Testing Consent Form before asymptomatic students can be tested. This consent form is valid for 90 days from the date of the signature.</p>
<p>Your student will need to complete the necessary isolation period at home and should continue engaging with their classes through virtual learning. DCPS requires documentation from a healthcare provider or contact tracing force confirming that your student has met the criteria to return to in-person learning after their illness.</p>	<p><i>What happens if my student tests positive?</i></p>	<p>The Nurse will contact parents via phone and email if your student tests positive. All other results will be provided via email. Your student will need to complete the necessary isolation period at home. DCPS requires documentation from a healthcare provider or contact tracing force, confirming that the student has met the criteria to return to in-person learning after their illness.</p>
<p>If rapid COVID-19 test results are negative, a PCR test will be immediately administered to confirm the negative result. Your student will need to remain home until the PCR test results are obtained.</p> <p>If the PCR test results are negative, the student may return to school. If the PCR is positive, the student must complete necessary isolation at home. If PCR results are inconclusive, the student must get retested by a healthcare provider.</p>	<p><i>What happens if my student tests negative or inconclusive?</i></p>	<p>If the test is negative, the student can continue attending school. If the results are inconclusive or indeterminate, the student should stay home and retest. Students should remain at home until negative confirmatory results are received.</p>

If you have more questions about your school's COVID-19 response efforts or COVID-19 testing, please visit <https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/> or contact your school administrator and/or registrar's office.