K-12 COVID Response Update

February 2, 2022



Today's Presentation

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Update on DESE/DPH Protocols

Update on COVID Testing Program

CONTENTS **Next Steps**

01

Update on DESE/DPH Protocols

January 31, 2022 Update to DESE/DPH Protocols

- Updated protocols available at this <u>link</u>.
 - Please sign up for the <u>Commissioner's Weekly Update</u> to receive important documents and updates from DESE.
- Highlights include:
 - Updated symptoms information
 - Differentiation in protocols
 - Protocols specific to districts and schools that have selected the new testing option with at-home antigen tests and
 - Continuation of existing protocols for districts and schools implementing the legacy testing program with Test and Stay and contact tracing.



02

Update on COVID Testing Program

K-12 Testing	Last week (1/17 - 1/23)	Program total (8/30/21 - 1/23/22)	
Schools testing			
# schools conducting <u>at least one</u> testing mode (symptomatic, test and stay, and/or routine pooled testing)	2,068	2,285	
Test and Stay			
# test and stay tests conducted ^{2,3}	37,014	623,287	
# in-person school days saved through test and stay (# negative tests) ⁴	35,839	611,849	
Routine pooled tests			
Average swabs per pool	3.60	5.92	
# pools processed	49,494	469,873	
# positive pooled results	4,448	25,252	
# negative pooled results	45,046	444,621	
Pool positivity rate	9.00%	5.37%	
Avg. turnaround time (hrs)	19.6	16.5	

At-home antigen test updates

- Using at-home antigen tests for symptomatic individuals
 - All participating individuals will receive the equivalent of one test per week (reminder: each iHealth kit comes with two tests).
 - Schools may determine the distribution cycle to participating staff and students
 - Schools are encouraged to identify the day during the week that participating individuals should take the test at home.
 - Schools can also inform participating individuals that they can use their one test per week if they have symptoms.



Using at-home antigen tests for symptomatic individuals

- Per Protocol C of the DPH/DESE COVID Protocols, return to school is based on symptom resolution
 - It is also recommended that individuals receive a negative PCR or rapid antigen test.
 - The once per week at-home antigen test may be used for this purpose, if available & desired.
- Additional tests are not available if participating individuals use their at-home test for symptoms.
 - Individuals that report positive at-home test results, should follow Protocol A for COVID positive individuals.



Opt in resource

- The Shah Family Foundation has created a Google Form template for the opt-in form in multiple languages.
- This is an <u>optional</u> resource for districts.
- District data is not shared with the Shah Foundation, and Shah Family Foundation provides instructions on how to remove their access to the form once they distribute a copy to you.
- If you have any questions, please contact <u>covidedtesting@shahfoundation.org</u>



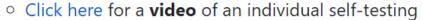
Accessing translated iHealth instructions

• iHealth "how to" written guide available directly on DESE COVID testing website

Letter Templates for Families

At-Home Antigen Testing Letter to Parents







At-Home Antigen Testing Letter to Staff

Positive Test Result Notification (for at-home antigen testing program)

Positive Case Letter — All Families — coming soon

Rapid Test Result Letter to Parents — coming soon

Safety Checks Graphics for District Websites



Delivery schedule through 3/6

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
16	17	18	19	20	21 Last day for staff delivery inputs for priority districts	22
23	Staff delive	eries -	26	27	28 Last day for student delivery inputs for priority districts	29
30	Student de	liveries	Deadline for staff quantity (qty.) changes)	4	5
6	Staff delive	eries -	Deadline for staff + student quantity changes	10	11	12
13	Staff + stu	15 Ident deliveries	16	17	18	19
20	No deliver	ies (Feb. break)	Deadline for staff +student qty. changes	24	25	26
27	Staff + stu	1 Ident deliveries	2	3	4	5
6	7 No deliver		9 Deadline for staff +student qty. changes	10	11	12

Reminders

Staff numbers need to be added or updated by COB today (5pm, 2/2)

Student numbers need to be added or updated by COB 2/9

If the numbers you have entered have not changed, you do not need to update them.

If your numbers have changed (increase or decrease in need), please update by the deadline



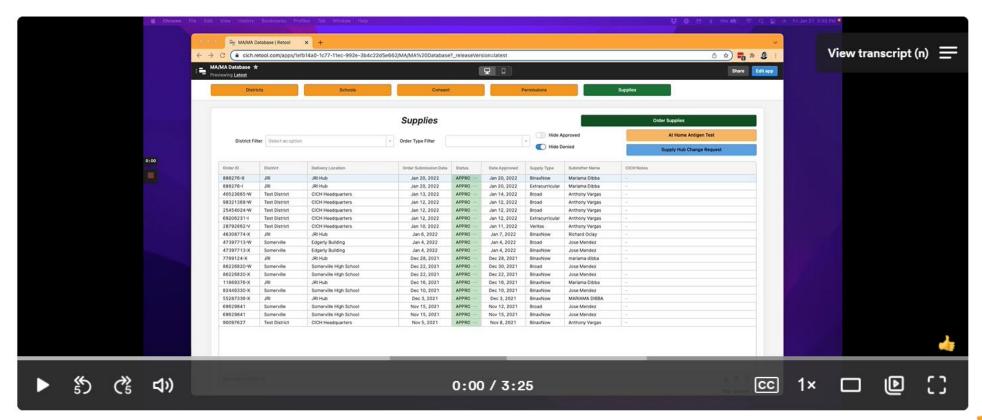
Participating student and staff ordering directions

- Navigate to the <u>CIC Health Supply Form</u> for your school in CIC Health's School and Consent Database
 - If you do not have access to the supply form, please email <u>support@cic-health.com</u> to request access
- Select the "At Home Antigen Test" button
- A popup will appear. Select "Add/Update Opt-In Numbers"
 - Complete all fields: District, Full Name, Staff Opted-In, Students Opted-In
 - Click Submit
 - You will not receive a confirmation email. Shipments occur automatically based on the numbers submitted.
- Please note, you may also update the centralized shipping location in this area



Video directions for updating student and staff numbers

Use this <u>link</u> to watch a 3 min. video with instructions on how to update student and staff participation numbers



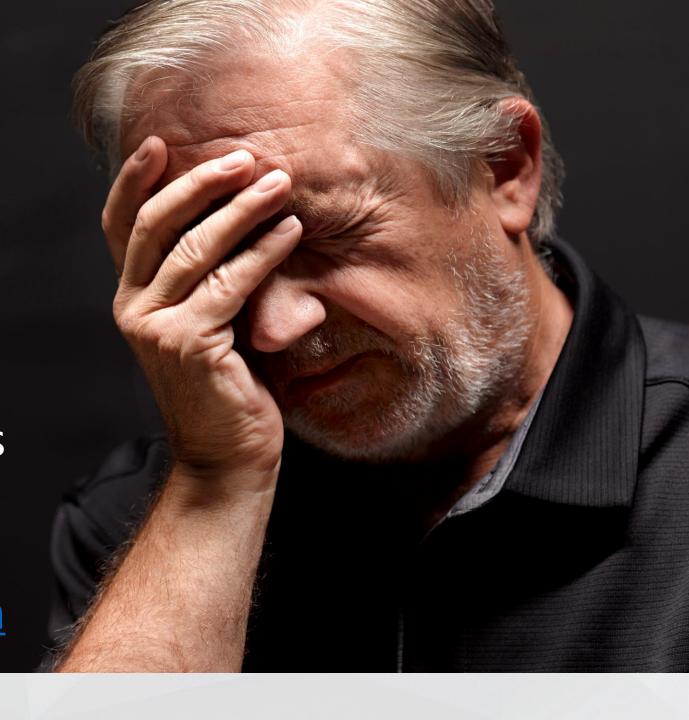
Tracking your orders

- Tracking number is sent <u>when tests leave</u> warehouse (from <u>support@cic-health.com</u>) to the district contact
- Please check your spam for missed messages
- Most tests are shipped via UPS
- Signature is required at delivery



DO NOT SUFFER ALONE!

- If you have not received a delivery confirmation by COB on the Wednesdays of delivery weeks, or
- If you have any concerns about your delivery
- Please contact <u>support@cic-health.com</u>



At-home antigen test security

- All tests must be signed for at time of delivery.
- Keep tests in a secure location and keep log of who enters and exits secure location.
- Districts and schools are responsible for tracking test inventory once they are delivered.



CIC Health staff support for internal distribution

- In addition to supporting pooled testing and symptomatic testing, CIC Health staff can support at-home antigen testing. This may include supports such as:
 - Distribution, collection, and organization of opt-in forms
 - Organization and on-site distribution of the testing kits



Substituting BinaxNOW <u>Home</u> Tests for iHealth (if available)

- If you have BinaxNOW <u>Home Tests</u> (eMed) that you are no longer using for T&S, you can substitute them for iHealth tests.
- Reminder: BinaxNOW Home Tests come one test to a box, while iHealth are two tests to a box.
- Updated expiration dates can be located <u>here</u>. Please remind individuals of updated dates.



03

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Reminder: Mobile Vaccination Program Process

- We are accepting mobile vaccination clinic requests, with priority given to clinics for 5-11 yearolds
- Mobile vaccination clinic requests must be submitted:
 - Through the online form (<u>mass.gov/mobilevaccineform</u>), and
 - At least 14 business days before the desired clinic date
- If a clinic request can be accommodated, an approval notification email will be sent to introduce the clinic requestor to the designated vaccination provider
- If you previously worked with a provider and enjoyed that experience, please note that in the request
- Once you are connected with a provider, they will provide consent forms and a scheduling platform. We encourage as much pre-registration as possible to streamline the process



Important links on DESE website

- Order supplies and update student/staff numbers: cich-ma.zendesk.com
- COVID-19 Testing Program: https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/testing/
 - District Opt-in Form for At-Home Testing Option
 - Authorized School Application (for pooled and/or symptomatic testing)
 - Webinar recordings and slides
 - Template consent forms, opt-in forms, and parent/staff letters
- On the Desktop: https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop.html
 - Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios
- General FAQs: https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/faq/
 - Protocols and other reopening FAQs (also sent out in the <u>Commissioner's Weekly Update</u>)



Have a question? Need help?

- Here's how to get in touch:
 - First, contact your Program Coordinator
 - They are your best first line of defense.
 - If you don't hear back, contact CIC support
 - support@cic-health.com
 - Still don't have what you need? Send us a note!
 - DESE: <u>k12covid19testing@mass.gov</u>
 - Shah Foundation: <u>CovidEdTesting@ShahFoundation.org</u>

Please note:

If you need help, please reach out as early as possible. All teams are experiencing a high volume and the sooner we hear from you the better.

