



# Catalician Center for Learning COVID-19 Test Operating Procedures

# COVID-19 Testing Protocol Overview

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Goal of this effort

With the health and safety of those we serve and our staff as our top priorities, the goal is to open school for in-person instruction and therapy by strategically utilizing rapid COVID-19 testing.

# Requirements for Schools Located in “Yellow,” “Orange,” or “Red” Zones

## Yellow Zone

- 20% of in-person students, faculty, and staff must be tested.
- If those tests result in a lower positivity rate than the current 7-day average across our cluster zone, the school stops testing.
- Use face coverings, practice physical distancing, and complete health screenings.

## Orange Zone

- 20% of in-person students, faculty, and staff must be tested.
- The numbers tested should be evenly spread across the month with 10% the maximum/minimum to be tested biweekly.
- Use face coverings, practice physical distancing, and complete health screenings.

## Red Zone

- 30% of in-person students, faculty, and staff must be tested.
- The numbers tested should be evenly spread across the month with 15% the maximum/minimum to be tested biweekly.
- Use face coverings, practice physical distancing, and complete health screenings.

\*Per the DOH, testing is only required when students are receiving in-person services.

# Testing can reduce COVID-19 cases

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Prevent



Respond



Mitigate

By conducting tests, the school can:

- Use tests as an additional screening tool to prevent the virus from coming into the building.
- Provide another source of testing to which the school can quickly respond by notifying the individual before they can spread COVID within the school.

# About the BinaxNOW Test

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- How long does it take to get the test results?

*15 minutes*

- How is the test administered?

*Tests are administered with a nasal swab to the shallow front of the nostrils only.*

- How are the tests packaged?

*Tests are the size of a credit card and contain a nasal swab and reagent testing solution.*

*They are packed 40 to a shoebox-sized kit.*



# Accuracy of the BinaxNOW Test

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- Abbott Labs evaluated its test in 102 patients who had shown COVID-19 symptoms for fewer than 7 days and compared the results with a PCR test. This analysis showed that BinaxNOW has
  - sensitivity (true positive rate) of 97.1%
  - specificity (true negative rate) of 98.5%
- BinaxNOW tests are significantly more accurate than the previous generation of rapid antigen tests.

Source: <https://abbott.mediaroom.com>

# Training

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- Four (4) nursing department employees have been certified to collect the nasal swab samples at the school testing events.
- Training has been completed by designated staff to perform BinaxNOW testing with demonstration of competency relative to the implementation of CCL's rapid testing program.
- Required training for the BinaxNOW testing can be located on the [Abbott Global Point of Care](#) website.
- As necessary, additional personnel will be trained in accordance with DOH regulations and requirements.

# Consents

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- Consent forms have been developed for students and the employee.
- An online form is available on the agency's website for parents/caregivers.
- Employees will complete their form at the time they are selected for testing.



# Testing Selection

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## Surveillance Testing

- Surveillance testing helps to gauge the prevalence of the virus within the school community by periodically evaluating samples from randomly selected non-symptomatic individuals.

## Population

- Academic Campus Employees
- School-age students attending in-person
- All preschool students attending in-person
- School-age students in child care

## Sample Selection (20% in the orange zone and 30% in the red zone)

- Testing will be conducted weekly from a random sample of the population.
- The total sample for each week of the month will be selected the week prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> testing of the monthly period.
- Any employee or student selected with an exemption for testing will be placed back into the school sample selection and another selection will be made in its place (e.g. medical exemption to not receive the test).

# Testing – Staff

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- Staff testing will take place on Mondays (or first weekday following a holiday).
- Staff will be selected the week prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> testing of the monthly period.
- The Nursing Department will contact the staff person to inform them the day they will be tested.
- Tests will be scheduled in the morning and according to the employee's schedule.
- Staff will be paid per their scheduled start time.

# External Testing – Staff

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- Once they have been selected and notified, employees also have the option to go to an alternative testing site on their own time and at their own expense.
- The employee will need to schedule their appointment prior to Monday (or the first day of the week following a holiday) for the week in which they were selected and communicate the date and time of the appointment with the Nursing department.
- The employee will be required to communicate and submit their testing results to the Nursing Department (or designee) immediately after receipt.

# Testing – Staff

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- Selected staff will report directly to gymnasium upon arrival for testing. Once tested, staff will report back to their vehicle or wait in the designated area for 15 minutes until contacted with results.

<b>Staff Test Scheduled (Mondays)</b>	<b># of Individuals</b>	<b>Results Checked</b>
<b>7:35AM</b>		<b>7:50AM</b>
<b>7:55AM</b>		<b>8:10AM</b>

# Testing – Students

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- Student testing will take place on Wednesdays.
- Students will be selected the week prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> testing of the monthly period.
- The Nursing Department will contact parents/caregivers regarding scheduling a time for testing at the Academic Campus for the Wednesday on which they are scheduled.

# Testing – Students

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- Parent/caregiver will bring selected students to the school (enter gym doors) for testing on Wednesdays. Parent will be notified by phone if student tests positive.
- Parent should remain in the gymnasium with their child and will be required to complete the Health Screening Questionnaire.

<b>Student Test Scheduled (Wednesdays)</b>	<b># of Individuals</b>	<b>Results Checked</b>
<b>7:35AM</b>		<b>8:30AM</b>
<b>7:55AM</b>		<b>8:50AM</b>

# External Testing – Students

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- Once they have been selected and notified, the parent/caregiver of the student will also have the option to go to an alternative testing site at their own expense.
- The parent/caregiver of the student will need to schedule their appointment prior to Wednesday and communicate the date and time of the appointment with the Nursing department (or designee).
- The parent/caregiver of the student will be required to communicate and submit their testing results to the Nursing Department (or designee) immediately after receipt.

# Testing Procedures: Students and Staff

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- Employees and students with their parent/caregiver will be directed to the gym upon arrival for their scheduled COVID-19 test.
- The east facing gym doors will be used as the primary exit and entrance. **(located near dumpsters and PODS)**
- Employees will enter directly into the gym – do not clock in.
- Parents/caregivers who enter with their child will complete the Health Screening Questionnaire.
- As necessary, a consent form will be signed prior to testing and will be required in order to receive a COVID-19 test by a CCL trained employee.
- Employees and students will be given a copy of the [BinaxNOW Fact Sheet For Patients](#) and a copy of the [COVID-19 Quarantine vs. Isolation](#) basic information sheet.



# Testing Procedures: Students and Staff

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Following the test:

- Students with their parent/caregiver will be asked to return home and await a phone call from the nursing staff (or designee) with the results.
- Employees will be asked to return to their car and wait 15 minutes for results.
- There will be a designated area for employees to wait if they do not have a vehicle to wait in.
- Nursing staff (or designee) will call them in 15 minutes with the results.

# Testing Procedures: Students and Staff

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If a test result is positive:

- A copy of the [Standing Orders for Isolation for Erie County](#) will be reviewed with and provided to the employee or guardian of the student electronically or via mail. This will also be posted on the CCL website.
- ECDOH has asked CCL to convey a priority message - that if someone has a positive test, that they need to go home immediately and ISOLATE, and their household needs to QUARANTINE. This is crucial to breaking the chain of disease transmission in the community.

# Testing Procedures: Students and Staff

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- Results will be uploaded to the Electronic Clinical Laboratory Reporting System (ECLRS) once all tests have been administered and read for the day.
- ECDOH contact tracers will be in touch with individuals who have a positive test result or their parent/guardian. This may take time, depending on how quickly test results are uploaded to the Electronic Clinical Laboratory Reporting System (ECLRS).
- Results will also be recorded on the daily New York State School Survey reporting form.

# What to do after a positive test?

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The student/staff should be placed in isolation in their own room with their own bathroom. All the following criteria must be met before the student/staff can return to school:

- At least ten days after COVID-19 symptom onset or ten days from their first positive test if asymptomatic AND
- Fever-free for at least 72 consecutive hours without the use of fever-reducing medication  
and
- Respiratory symptoms are improving.

Thank you

