

# NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL SYSTEM

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Narragansett School System in conjunction with Rhode Island Education Operations Center, the Rhode Island Department of Education, and the Rhode Island Department of Health, have made PreK-12 School COVID-19 Testing available to all students and staff.

- When a district or school has COVID testing, it is done in the school. The students do NOT leave the school.
- The testing is done on a VOLUNTARY BASIS.
- Narragansett School System has worked to set up the systems, trainings and protocols so that our students and staff will be able to have regular access to COVID testing in our school facilities.
- It is believed that testing is necessary if we are to keep our schools open. Our staff are essential to our schools and they need to be tested on a regular basis.
- Our administrators and school nurse teachers need to have regular access to testing as they are not only essential but they are also our first responders. · Our winter athletes and coaches need to be routinely tested.

## Why schools do testing?

Frequent access to testing will allow us to stay ahead of any type of spread in our schools while maintaining the confidence of staff, students and families. Our goal is to have everyone in our learning community BE SAFE and FEEL SAFE. We believe that regular testing is necessary for us to reach this goal each day. It is an essential component for us to be able to remain open

When will testing take place?	Every Monday Morning (or the first day of the school week)
What schools will participate?	Each school will participate in this program
Who will be tested?	Any staff or student that has completed the consent form

What type of program will be used?	A temporary test site set up in the school for anyone from that wants to access it
What type of test will be done?	(1) BinaxNOW <i>(see below to learn more about BinaxNOW)</i>
Who will administer the test?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The BinaxNOW test will be administered by the school nurse. (or other trained staff)</li> <li>· All staff and students in NHS and NPMS will self-swab while being monitored by trained staff.</li> </ul>
Will staff also be able to test?	Yes, if they would like to be
Is this required?	No, this is <b>voluntary basis only</b>
Where is the consent form? How can I access it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· A consent form is REQUIRED PRIOR to participation. Please access the form here: <a href="#">CLICK HERE TO ACCESS</a></li> </ul> <p>***The only way for a student to participate will be to have prior consent from the parent.***</p>
How do I learn my results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Results are provided onsite in 15 minutes.</li> <li>· The Health Offices will immediately isolate any participant that is positive.</li> <li>· The family of any positive student will be contacted immediately.</li> </ul>
Will I be able to view results on the state portal?	Participants will be able to log into the state portal for results. This will not be available immediately as they need to be entered by school staff.
Will winter athletes have additional testing?	Winter athletes will be tested on each Monday and Thursday during the winter sports season

*Planning for the Narragansett School System Testing Program:  
Responding to RIDE & RIDOH*

Planning Questions Response	
Engagement:	1. Requires the completion of the consent form for testing.

<p>What type of consent will you require for student participation in the testing events?</p> <p>How will you track which students have opted-in to testing?</p> <p>What will you do to engage the community and answer questions?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The consent form will keep a list. We will also keep record in our student information system of which students have opted-in.</li> <li>3. We will continue to meet our community where they are with whatever supports they need. This includes engaging the community and answering questions using a variety of venues and tools. This includes using our website, School Committee Meetings, email messages from our Superintendent, messages via email and phone system from our Principals, messages about our testing by our Principals and Nurses, and answering questions using email and phone calls. If needed then we will have specific Community Q &amp; A events using Zoom.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Test Administration:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who will administer the BINAX tests and who will be part of the testing team?</li> <li>2. Explain the RIDOH recommended testing model(s) you will be using (including who will be tested and how often).</li> <li>3. How will you secure the necessary PPE and Biohazard supplies needed for testing?</li> <li>4. How will you respond when/if you get a positive test result?</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The School Nurse will help to monitor and/or administer. We will have students at NPMS and NHS self-swab. Our staff will also self-swab. See more about our Testing Team below.</li> <li>2. We will test all those that have signed the consent each <b>Monday morning</b> with the goal of 25% to 50% of the entire district population. Staff members will be able to be swabbed when they arrive. Students will follow. Athletes will be tested a second time each week (Thursday).</li> <li>3. We will use Stericycle Inc. as the districts biohazard removal vendor. We will schedule for them to come as needed after our testing is complete. We already have sufficient PPE.</li> <li>4. A student or staff member that has a positive result will immediately be brought to the isolation room. Appropriate review and contacts will be made.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Test Location(s):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where will testing take place in each participating school?</li> <li>2. How will the school ensure proper health and safety techniques are used in the testing locations?</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The specific testing location will vary in each school. Students will sign in and be given the kit. They will then walk to the swab table. After they are swabbed/monitored performing the swab then they will walk to the timer table and place swab into test sleeve which must remain flat on the timing table once the reagent has been added. Students/Staff will NOT wait for their results. They will be notified immediately if there is a positive result.</li> <li>2. We will follow our process in each location by using a written protocol that is reviewed with each staff member. This will be monitored by the principal and school nurse. District</li> </ol>

	leadership meetings will be held to debrief after each event so that the processes can be discussed and best practice can be followed.
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### **Binax NOW Testing Team**

#### **What will happen on the testing days?**

- Conduct walkthroughs of testing space and schedule with testing team to ensure all logistics, roles, and responsibilities are followed
- Ensure all gloves used for swabbing and BiNax Tests are disposed of in Biohazard bags
- Track all positive and negative test results
- Respond to any positive tests following school established response protocol · Upload testing results to RIDOH
- Deep clean testing space
- Securely store unused BiNax Tests
- As needed: Order more BiNax Tests for future events

### **About the BinaxNOW Test**

**The test is a noninvasive nasal swab. The results are provided on site in 15 minutes.**

#### **General Information about the BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Antigen Tests**

The BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Antigen Test is intended for the detection of protein antigen from SARS-CoV-2 in direct nasal swabs from individuals suspected of having COVID-19 by their healthcare providers.

The BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Antigen Test is most sensitive when used in symptomatic individuals within the first seven days of symptom onset. **Negative results do not rule out SARS-CoV-2 infection and should not be used as the sole basis for treatment or patient management decisions, including infection control decisions.** In

symptomatic individuals with a negative BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Antigen Test, a second specimen should be sent for confirmatory PCR-based SARS-CoV-2 testing. **In individuals with a positive BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Antigen Test, the person should be considered to be positive for SARS-CoV-2 regardless of the PCR-based SARS CoV-2 test. A PCR-based SARS-CoV-2 test should still be considered to confirm the results.**

RIDOH has determined that the BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Antigen Test can be used in specific settings for screening of asymptomatic individuals. Although the Test likely has reduced sensitivity in this setting, this is offset by the ability to reach people for testing

Anyone suspected of having SARS-COV-2 should always be sent for a confirmatory PCR-based SARS-Cov-2 test.

### **Weekly Report**

Anyone suspected of having SARS-CoV-2 should always be sent for a confirmatory PCR-based SARS-Cov-2 test.

More information about the BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Antigen Test can be found on the websites linked below.

- <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/abbott-binaxnow-fact-sheet.pdf>
- <https://www.fda.gov/media/141570/download>

### **Questions?**

#### **Where can I take a COVID Test?**

- **Asymptomatic Community Testing Center at South Road School**
  - There is a state **asymptomatic** community testing center at South Road School.
  - There is information about how to schedule a test here: <https://health.ri.gov/covid/testing/asymptomatic/>
  - You can schedule an appointment in advance by visiting: <https://health.ri.gov/covid/testing/>
  - Patients can self-schedule regardless of symptoms, exposure, or insurance status.
- **PreK-12 Dedicated Testing Centers**
  - There are PreK – 12 Dedicated Testing Centers in Rhode Island. Please see the PreK-12 Dedicated Testing Center Website (<https://health.ri.gov/covid/testing/k-12/>) for an overview of when to get a test, what happens on the day of the test, and the locations of the K-12 testing sites.
  - To schedule a test, parents or staff can call: (844) 857 – 1814, Seven Days a Week: 7:30 AM - 9:30 PM.
  - Rhode Island's K-12 testing services are available to any student, teacher, or staff member at any public or private K-12 school throughout the state who needs to be tested for COVID-19.
  - Any K-12 students or staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been identified as a close contact of a positive case should call the K-12 test scheduling service at 844-857-1814.

#### **Where can I take an asymptomatic test?**

- Anyone can visit South Road Elementary School for a COVID test. Do NOT use this site if you have symptoms.

## How do I get COVID Testing Results in Rhode Island?

- **State Testing Portal**
  - To make getting your test results easier, all Rhode Islanders can get your results from a single place, no matter how you scheduled your test. Right now, everyone in Rhode Island can access your test result by going to <https://portal.ri.gov/results/s/>