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## IUFSD COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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March 31, 2021

The Irvington UFSD is committed to providing the healthiest and safest possible school environment for its students and staff members. As the District transitions to full, daily student attendance numerous steps have been taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. To monitor prevalence of the coronavirus within the school buildings, the District will facilitate a surveillance testing program. The data collected from this initiative will inform decisions regarding ongoing District operations.

This FAQ has been prepared to help answer questions regarding the surveillance testing program.

### **What is the purpose of the COVID-19 Testing?**

To monitor the health within the school community, the IUFSD will facilitate COVID-19 surveillance testing of 5% of those students and staff that are physically present in each school every two weeks.

### **What test is being administered?**

The IUFSD is using the [Abbot BinaxNOW Rapid Antigen Test](#), which is being provided by the NYSDOH, free of charge. The test utilizes a lower nasal swab and is much less invasive than other common tests. Results from the test are available within 15 minutes.

### **Who will administer the COVID-19 rapid tests?**

The BinaxNow Rapid Antigen Test will be administered by licensed medical care providers who have been contracted by the IUFSD.

### **When will testing take place?**

Testing will take place on April 12, April 26, May 10, May 24, June 7, and June 21. All testing will be held between 7:00 am - 8:30 am. Efforts will be made for staff members and Dows Lane and IHS students to be tested at the earlier appointment times to accommodate school schedules.

Staff members who have provided consent to participate in the surveillance testing and students for whom consent has been provided will be scheduled for one of the testing dates. The District's goal is to have each individual tested once prior to the end of the 2020-21 school year. **Only report for testing if you received an email with instructions to schedule an appointment. Those without appointments will not be admitted.**

### **Where will the testing be administered?**

Testing will be conducted utilizing a "drive thru" approach that will not require individuals to leave their cars. All testing will be facilitated rain or shine at Scenic Hudson Park, 29 Bridge Street, Irvington, NY. When arriving at Scenic Hudson Park IUFSD staff will provide directions to those to be tested.

### **How will I know when my appointment is?**

Those who have been selected to be tested will receive a link via email to schedule their testing appointment using a secure scheduling platform. Those who are to be tested will be required to **schedule their appointment by 12:00 pm on the Friday**

**preceding their assigned test date.** Once the appointment is scheduled you will receive a confirmation email.

**Who will send me the email to schedule my testing appointment?**

The District Administrative staff will manage the scheduling process. All communications regarding scheduling will be sent from the [COVIDTesting@IrvingtonSchools.org](mailto:COVIDTesting@IrvingtonSchools.org) email account.

**How will I be advised of the COVID-19 test results?**

After completing the necessary nasal swab, individuals will be permitted to leave the testing location. Once the tests are read (within 15 minutes), the District will send a text message with the results to the parent/guardian or staff member's phone number, which was provided when the appointment was made.

The negative test result report may be requested upon entrance to school. If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, they **MAY NOT** report to school/work. Instead, they should contact their personal health care provider for directions and will be required to quarantine in accordance with all NYSDOH guidelines.

**Where can I direct my questions regarding the COVID-19 surveillance testing?**

Please email any questions regarding the surveillance testing program to [COVIDTesting@IrvingtonSchools.org](mailto:COVIDTesting@IrvingtonSchools.org). This email account is monitored by Dr. Harrison and the District's COVID-19 testing partners.

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