



COVID-19 Testing Frequently Asked Questions

In conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Cumberland County Schools is providing weekly COVID-19 testing on-site at our school.

Why is CCS offering free COVID-19 testing?

Keeping Kids Safe

We strongly recommend all families participate in this free program. COVID-19 variants are spreading throughout the United States, and research shows routine testing can reduce the spread of COVID-19 by 50%, especially in large settings such as schools.

Who will administer the COVID-19 test?

Raleigh-based MAKO Medical will administer an anterior nares nasal swab test that is quick and gentle. (This is NOT the test that tickles the brain!)

MAKO Medical processes all registrations through Color Health in partnership with Thermo Fisher Scientific.

What are the next steps if you are interested in participating in this free, StrongSchoolsNC COVID-19 testing program?

A parent or guardian must register their children. Then, parents will complete a one-time consent and HIPAA authorization to share testing results with all necessary parties. All testing information is confidential, and results will be available to school officials in hours.

How do you register?

You may register by selecting the registration link for your child's school.

Can a student be tested weekly, or is there a limit on how many times they can be tested?

Students who opt in to the program will be tested once a week.

Do students/employees have to be exhibiting symptoms before they are allowed to test? No, we are offering testing to any student or employee regardless of symptoms on the scheduled day at their school.

Will students be tested before going to class in the morning, or will they go to class and be called down to test?

It depends on how many people register - There will potentially be three testing groups on the scheduled day. Group one will test before school, group 2 will test mid-day at a scheduled break, and group 3 will test after school. Afterschool testing will be reserved for student-athletes.

Will students be isolated until their test results come back?

No, students will not lose instructional time. After testing, they will return to class and follow the three W's.

How will parents be notified if their child tests positive during the screening?

The Office of Health Services will notify the parent and school administration if a positive test result is received.

Will tests be offered only at schools or at other CCS buildings as well?

Tests will be offered at your students' school on their scheduled dates. Employees can also test on those scheduled dates.

Will tests be offered for a limited time only? It states that you have to be registered by Friday, September 17?

Registration will remain open; we are asking parents to register as soon as possible to determine the number of staff required for each testing site.

How long will the free testing be offered?

CCS will offer free testing for the 2021-2022 school year.

To learn more about StrongSchoolsNC COVID-19 testing, visit

www.MAKOstrongschoolsNC.com.

Thank you for helping to keep our Cumberland County School community safe and healthy.