



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

Laboratories Administration
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Specimen Deliveries to the MDH Laboratories over the Independence Day (July 4th) Holiday Weekend

The MDH Laboratories will be operating on an abbreviated holiday schedule over the upcoming Independence Day (July 4th) Holiday Weekend (July 3-5) to receive *Newborn and Clinical* specimens for testing. Our Holiday schedule is as follows:

MDH Central Laboratory

Saturday, July 3, 2021	<i>Loading dock open 7:30 AM –12:00PM **</i>
Sunday, July 4, 2021	CLOSED
Monday, July 5, 2021	CLOSED

*** Newborn specimens will be received until 2:00PM on Saturday, July 3, 2021*

MDH Eastern Shore Regional Laboratory (ESRL)

Saturday, July 3, 2021	CLOSED
Sunday, July 4, 2021	CLOSED
Monday, July 5, 2021	CLOSED

MDH Western Maryland Regional Laboratory (WMRL)

Saturday, July 3, 2021	CLOSED
Sunday, July 4, 2021	CLOSED
Monday, July 5, 2021	CLOSED

Specimens collected for COVID-19 testing can be stored and transported on cold packs refrigerated (2-8°C) for up to 72 hours after collection before delivery to the MDH Central Laboratory for testing.

Specimens that cannot be delivered for testing at the MDH Central Laboratory within 72 hours after collection must be frozen and stored at > -70°C and transported frozen on dry ice. Therefore, please plan the COVID-19 specimen collection accordingly over the holiday.

If you have any questions/concerns about COVID-19 specimen delivery, please contact the MDH Central Laboratory at 443-681.3924. For urgent rabies exposure testing and other after hour emergency testing requests see instructions on page 7 of the Guide to Public Health Laboratories Services on the MDH Laboratory’s homepage: <https://health.maryland.gov/laboratories/Pages/home.aspx>