



Wes Moore, Governor - Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor - Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

Specimen Deliveries to the MDH Laboratories for the Christmas Day, and New Year's Day Holidays 2025-2026

The MDH Laboratories will be operating on an abbreviated holiday schedule over the upcoming holiday to receive Newborn and Clinical specimens for testing. Our Holiday schedule is as follows:

MDH Central Laboratory

Wednesday, December 24, 2025	CLOSED
Thursday, December 25, 2025 (Christmas Day)	CLOSED
Friday December 26, 2025	Open-normal hours
Saturday, December 27, 2025	Open for Clinical specimens 7:30 am-12:00 pm Open for Newborn specimens 7:30 am-2:00 pm
Sunday, December 28, 2025	CLOSED
Thursday, January 1, 2026 (New Year's Day)	CLOSED

MDH Eastern Shore Regional Laboratory (ESRL)

Wednesday, December 24, 2025	CLOSED
Thursday, December 25, 2025 (Christmas Day)	CLOSED
Friday December 26, 2025	Open-normal hours
Saturday, December 27, 2025	CLOSED
Sunday, December 28, 2025	CLOSED
Thursday, January 1, 2026 (New Year's Day)	CLOSED

MDH Western Maryland Regional Laboratory (WMRL)

Wednesday, December 24, 2025	CLOSED
Thursday, December 25, 2025 (Christmas Day)	CLOSED
Friday December 26, 2025	Open-normal hours
Saturday, December 27, 2025	CLOSED
Sunday, December 28, 2025	CLOSED
Thursday, January 1, 2026 (New Year's Day)	CLOSED

Specimens collected for COVID-19 and Mpox 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 and Mpox specimen collection accordingly over the holiday.

For urgent rabies exposure testing and other after hour emergency testing requests see instructions on page 7 of the Guide to Public Health Laboratory Services on the MDH Laboratory's homepage: <https://health.maryland.gov/laboratories/Pages/home.aspx>