



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

In alignment with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) updated [Pre K-12 Schools and Child Care Guidance](#), and feedback from local superintendents and schools, MDH and MSDE will be offering the following COVID-19 testing resources for the 2022-2023 school year:

- 1) **OTC and POC Test Kits:** MDH will continue to provide COVID-19 rapid antigen point of care (POC) tests as well as over-the-counter (OTC) tests to public and non-public schools. Schools can use these tests at their discretion for **diagnostic testing** of persons with COVID-19 symptoms and those who come into close contact with someone with COVID-19, and/or **screening testing** of asymptomatic persons in order to identify infected people who may be contagious. Schools may continue to request COVID-19 POC and OTC rapid antigen tests from MDH [here](#).
- 2) **Federally-Funded Operation Expanded Testing:** Schools may take advantage of the Federally-funded [Operation Expanded Testing](#) (Operation ET) program through December 31, 2022. Operation ET offers free RT-PCR test supplies, with an accompanied project management team to onboard, train, and oversee the testing program. Schools may request more information directly on the [Operation Expanded Testing](#) site.
- 3) **Fixed Pricing for PCR Testing (with Select Vendors):** Schools interested in incorporating RT-PCR tests into their COVID-19 testing plan may enter into their own contract with the State's COVID-19 PCR testing vendors, utilizing the state's terms and negotiated rates, through an Intergovernmental Purchasing Cooperative Agreement (IGCPA). These vendors are: Capital Diagnostics, 20/20 GeneSystems, and Mako Medical. Detailed guidance regarding the IGCPA process is below. Schools may also enter into a contract with a non-State vendor of their choosing.

Schools may be eligible for 90% reimbursement under [FEMA's Public Assistance Program](#). Schools who have not submitted a Request for Public Assistance have until **September 29, 2022**. If interested in accessing these resources, please reach out to mdh.k12testing@maryland.gov as soon as possible. Note: Certain for-profit non-public schools are ineligible for the FEMA Public Assistance Program. We encourage schools to consider using their ARPA or other COVID-19 relief funds.

MDH will provide a transition by offering schools on-site COVID-19 PCR testing with select vendors through **September 30, 2022**. These vendors are: Capital Diagnostics, 20/20 GeneSystems, and Mako Medical.

For any questions, please contact MDH COVID-19 Recovery Operations at MDH.K12Testing@maryland.gov.



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Information on the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement for K-12 COVID-19 Testing Services - School Year 2022-2023

For the 2022-2023 academic year, participating school entities that are State or local entities or not for profit entities, will have the ability to continue offering the K-12 COVID-19 Screening Testing programs they are currently providing under the State's K-12 COVID-19 Screening Testing program under the same terms and conditions with the select contractors, using their own financial resources. These contractors are: 20/20 GeneSystems, Capital Diagnostics, and Mako Medical.

In accordance with the State's K-12 School COVID-19 Screening Services Contract, Exhibit A—the Request for Proposals (Solicitation Number 22-19258 available here: https://emma.maryland.gov/page.aspx/en/bpm/process_manage_extranet/35009), Section 2.1.5, **Maryland State and local entities as defined in Finance and Procurement 13-110(a)(5)(i) and not-for-profit entities within the State of Maryland may purchase from the Contractor goods or services covered by the Contract at the same prices chargeable to the State.** All such purchases by non-executive branch entities, non-State governments, government agencies or not-for-profit entities:

- A. Shall constitute contracts between the contractor and that government, agency or not-for-profit entity;
- B. Shall not constitute purchases by the State or State agencies under the contract;
- C. Shall not be binding or enforceable against the State; and
- D. May be subject to other terms and conditions agreed to by the contractor and the purchaser.

Furthermore, all contract prices, terms, and conditions must be provided to any Maryland local government or not-for-profit entity requesting services under the State contract.

Continuation of testing services under the State's contract would be considered an intergovernmental cooperative purchasing agreement (IGCPA) between the above Maryland State, local, and not-for-profit entities and the contractors, and participating entities can look to their own intergovernmental contracting processes as needed for finalizing such agreements for continuation of K-12 COVID-19 Screening Testing under the same terms and conditions as the State contract.

Next Steps: Schools interested in continuing to incorporate K-12 COVID-19 Screening Testing under the State's intergovernmental cooperative purchasing agreement should do the following:

- Reach out to MDH.K12Testing@maryland.gov to receive more information on creating their own contract via the IGCPA clause
- Sign non-disclosure agreement to ensure confidentiality of vendor rates. Once received, schools may directly engage with their desired vendor(s) and create their own contract