

 <p>Children's Services Agency</p> <p>Communication Issuance</p> <p>20-089</p>	Subject/Title	Testing for COVID-19 in Child Caring Institutions
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	Contact Name	Mary Chaliman
	Email	Chalimanm2@michigan.gov
	Phone	(517)898-0707
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This communication provides guidance for Child Caring Institutions (CCIs) regarding testing and repeat testing for COVID-19. The guidance is based on an issuance from Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) regarding the cadence of repeated testing for high-risk populations and/or settings in an ideal scenario, where sufficient testing capacity is available.

Testing Recommended Statewide

One-time testing, as needed.

- Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms, including mild symptoms.
- Case contacts without symptoms.
- At intake to any group living or congregate care setting, even without symptoms.
- At intake to a hospital in preparation for surgical procedures, even without symptoms, as deemed necessary by treating clinician.
- Testing for public health monitoring purposes (e.g., sentinel surveillance testing).
- Testing to increase rates per million per day in communities facing inequity in access (i.e., areas with higher proportion of racial/ethnic minorities, rural communities).

Recurring testing.

- In any group living or congregate care setting with one or more associated COVID-19 cases (weekly testing recommended until 14 days after last new positive case identified).

Post-symptomatic testing.

- Anyone with symptoms: two tests, separated by 24 hours, if a testing-based strategy is used to leave isolation.

Repeated Testing Recommended Only in Areas of Medium or High Risk

(As indicated by [MI Safe Start Map](#). All groups below reference asymptomatic individuals.)

Weekly testing.

- Congregate care staff (e.g., skilled nursing facilities, nursing homes, adult foster care).
- First responders.

Biweekly testing.

- Homeless shelters.
- Jails.
- Health workers.
- Workers with high risk of exposure, including those with/who are:
 - Repeated close and prolonged contact with the public.
 - Working in a high-risk profession where clusters of infections have been identified (i.e., migrant workers, food processing facilities, animal husbandry, etc.).
 - Working in person during a period of strict social distancing (i.e., Stay Home, Stay Safe).

COVID-19 Test Prioritization Criteria

Please find below the COVID-19 test prioritization criteria currently in effect.

High Priority.

- Hospitalized patients with symptoms.
- Any healthcare worker, first responder, or congregate care facility worker with symptoms.
- Residents in any congregate care facility, including prisons and shelters, with symptoms.

Priority.

- Asymptomatic patients in preparation for surgical procedures, as deemed necessary by the treating clinician.
- Asymptomatic people with known exposure to a person with confirmed COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19.
- Asymptomatic people living or working in a congregate care facility or other high-risk setting (i.e. nursing home, jail, prison, homeless shelter, assisted living facility, etc.) who:
 - Had a confirmed case among residents or workers.
 - Are located in a region of medium risk or higher, or
 - Are receiving patients from an area of medium risk or higher.

To help meet the level of testing envisioned in these recommendations, MDHHS is also publishing information regarding:

- COVID-19 test sites that provide services at no cost to the patient and have capacity to serve more people; and
- Laboratories with COVID-19 testing capabilities, supplies, and capacity to partner with new entities for specimen collection.

MDHHS provides this information to help ensure maximal use of COVID-19 testing resources and to facilitate connections between available laboratory capacity, test site capacity, and groups of individuals that may need testing.

Test Sites Providing Services at No Cost to Patients

MDHHS has compiled a list of test sites offering services at no cost to the patient, including individuals without insurance. Many of these sites have capacity to serve more patients each day. Please visit michigan.gov/coronavirustest for a list of test sites offering no cost testing that will be updated as conditions evolve over time.