

COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is Shield Testing?

SHIELD Illinois is a free screening testing program and infrastructure that deploys the University of Illinois' innovative saliva test across the state. It's open to all K-12 public schools across Illinois.

Q: How will Shield work in District 75 and 120?

Shield will operate in our schools with free weekly tests beginning sometime in September. All asymptomatic students are eligible, regardless of their vaccination status. This program requires a parent's consent. It will help identify those students who may be COVID-19 positive but not experiencing symptoms. This is the SHIELD Opt-in google form the district provided a few weeks ago. If you have not yet filled it out and would like to, please use the link below based on school building.

[Mundelein High School](#)
[Carl Sandburg Middle School form](#)
[Mechanics Grove Elementary School form](#)
[Washington Early Learning Center form](#)
[Lincoln Early Learning Center form](#)

Q: What is the Test-to-stay protocol?

A: It allows asymptomatic students to avoid quarantine and remain in school by testing negative on days one, three, five and seven after being exposed to COVID-19. Alternatively, students not showing symptoms could shorten the quarantine period from 10 to 7 days by providing a negative test result on day 5 from the date of exposure.

If a child is identified as being a close contact of a positive COVID case, parents must pick up the child from school. They will need to get the student tested with a PCR or rapid antigen test by an outside provider. After the first day, parents will need to provide test results after the student is tested on days 1, 3, 5 and 7. A test-at-home kit result is **not** acceptable.

Please send the results in with your students or email them to the building secretary supporting this process:

- Lincoln - [Danielle Garcia](#), 847-949-2720
- Washington - [Peggy Mitchell](#), 847-949-2714
- Mechanics Grove - [Adriana Guzman](#), 847-949-2712
- Carl Sandburg - [Cheryl Perraud](#), 847-949-2707
- Mundelein High School - [Yvette Campos](#), 847-949-2200 x 1391

Q: How is exposure defined for the Test-to-Stay program?

A: Exposure is when a person comes into close contact at school with someone who is COVID-19 positive, meaning they were less than 3 feet from the infected person for 15 minutes total or more during a 24-hour period. Parents/guardians will be notified if their child is a close contact.

Q: How does Test-to-Stay work for unvaccinated students?

A: The Test-to-Stay option will allow asymptomatic students to stay in school if they were exposed to the virus as "close contacts" by testing negative on days one, three, five and seven

following exposure. If they choose not to participate in the Test-to-Stay protocol, they could quarantine for seven calendar days with no symptoms and provide a negative PCR test result taken on day 5 from the date of exposure. Without either of these testing options, the child would have to be quarantined at home for 10 calendar days from the last day of exposure with no symptoms.

Q: How does test-to-stay work for vaccinated students?

A: No quarantine, but it's recommended that the students get a negative result from a PCR test three to five days after exposure. If the student shows symptoms or signs of illness, the student would have to quarantine until parents can provide proof of a negative PCR test.

Q: What if a student tests positive?

A: If your child tests positive, please notify the school as soon as possible. Please isolate your child at home until you receive further instruction from the Lake County Health Department. Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 would have to isolate for 10 calendar days from the onset of symptoms and may return on day 11 if symptom-free.

Q: How do I know my medical information won't be shared with others?

A: All information regarding COVID testing is protected under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA). All information will remain private and not shared.

Q: Where can I be tested for COVID-19 in the community?

A: Some possible locations that provide testing are listed below:

- [Walgreens Pharmacy](#): Several local locations (make an appointment online)
- [CVS Pharmacy](#): Several local locations (make an appointment online)
- Northshore Medical Group: (847) 367-2400, 1162 W. Maple (drop-in only; may be a wait)
- [Pediatrix](#): 185 Milwaukee Ave., (847) 821-9500 opt. 1, Suite 220, Lincolnshire and 36100 Brookside Dr., Suite 204, Gurnee among other locations.
- [Affordable Labs](#): (847) 367-8636, 850 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Vernon Hills
- [Lake County Community-based testing sites](#): 102 W. Water Street, Waukegan; Arlington Racetrack, 823 Wilke Road, Arlington Heights. These sites are open for testing on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Q: What are the rules for vaccination in District 75 or District 120 schools?

A: The CDC recommends everyone 12 and older get a COVID-19 vaccination. If you are interested in getting vaccinated against COVID-19, we're happy to provide you with information about vaccination locations. Being vaccinated is not a requirement for attending schools in District 75 or District 120.

State-supported mass vaccination sites, local health departments, pharmacy partners – every jurisdiction that receives vaccine from the state's vaccine allocation – are fully open to all 12 years of age and above. All populations in Illinois, including individuals who are undocumented, can receive the vaccine. No one will be turned away if they want to be vaccinated. Those under 18 need a parent or guardian present at the time of vaccination.

Q: Where can I be vaccinated for COVID-19?

A: To find a vaccination location near you, [click here](#) or go to coronavirus.illinois.gov or call the hotline at 1-833-621-1284. To see a IDPH vaccine location link in Spanish, [click here](#).

Check this list for other local vaccination sites:

- Walk-up Vaccine Site at Festival Fiestas Patrias, west end of the METRA parking lot, Friday-Sunday, Sept. 3-5 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Walk-up Vaccine Site at West District Office of Mundelein High School, Wednesday, Sept. 8 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Lakes Apothecary, 404 N. Seymour Avenue, Mundelein, Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday-Sunday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Jewel-Osco, 1501 S. Lake Street, Mundelein, 1150 W. Maple Avenue, Mundelein, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.