

Application for Employer-Based SARS-CoV-2 Testing

December 2020

KDHE is providing this application to employers interested in SARS-CoV-2 testing through the State's expanded testing plan. The state of Kansas has contracted with a number of laboratories providing regional coverage for SARS-CoV-2 testing. Please address each section of this application and return to kdhe.Covidtestapproval@ks.gov.

Executive Summary:

- **What this form is for:** Employers will use this form to express interest in participating in the State's expanded COVID-19 testing program. KDHE will use the information on this form to determine if an employer is a good fit to participate in the State's expanded testing program.
- **How this form will be used:** KDHE will determine if an employer is a good fit to participate in the State's expanded testing program based on each employer's answers to the questions outlined below.
- **Who is eligible for this program:** Any business that is registered in the State of Kansas. If the business operates in multiple states, only employees of the locations located in Kansas will be considered for this program.
- **What is the cost to participate in this program:** There is no cost associated with ordering the supplies, shipping the samples to the vendor laboratory, or analysis of the sample. However, some employers may be responsible for some costs associated with testing. For example, the employer may need to cover the costs associated with healthcare professional staffing needed to collect the samples.
- **Where this form will be located:** Available online at <https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/280/COVID-19-Testing> under "learn more & apply today"

Application:

Testing Purpose # 1:

Surveillance Testing: Surveillance testing for SARS-CoV-2 is testing of a random sample of a certain population to monitor for increasing or decreasing prevalence of COVID-19 disease in that population. Surveillance testing is intended to give the employer an idea of whether the disease may be circulating unknowingly among employees and to ultimately lead to stricter measures to control the spread of disease within the workplace. Please indicate if you are applying for surveillance testing support:

- Yes, I am interested in surveillance testing of up to 3% of my employees
- No, I am not interested in surveillance testing

Who to Test during Surveillance Testing

Each employer completing this application may test up to 3% of their Kansas-based workforce working in Kansas at a frequency of every two weeks until December 31, 2020, or less often if the employer prefers. The following industries are prioritized for surveillance testing. Please indicate which industry your workplace falls under:

- Critical Trades and Agriculture
- Meatpacking
- Warehouse and Distribution Centers
- Service Providing Establishments including Retail and Restaurants
- Aerospace
- Other Manufacturing

Testing Purpose # 2:

Diagnostic Testing: Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 is intended to identify current infection in individuals and is performed when a person has signs or symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or when a person is asymptomatic but has recent known or suspected exposure to SARS-CoV-2. Examples of diagnostic testing include testing symptomatic persons, testing persons identified through contact tracing efforts, and testing those who indicate that they were exposed to someone with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19.

Who to Test during Diagnostic Testing

Employers can plan for some limited testing of symptomatic employees who become ill during the workday. Please indicate if you are applying for diagnostic testing support:

- Yes, I am interested in diagnostic testing
- No, I am not interested in diagnostic testing

I _____ [insert name of applicant]

representing

[insert name of business]

located at

[insert address for Kansas-based campus]

understand that the information I have submitted in this application will be taken into consideration and this application is not a guarantee of SARS-CoV-2 testing services. I acknowledge I have read the isolation & quarantine expectations and if chosen for this program, the business will follow these guidelines to the best of its ability.

Please address each section of this application and return to kdhe.Covidtestapproval@ks.gov.

Guidelines

How to Use the Results of a Diagnostic Test

If the employer is providing diagnostic testing to employees, the expectation is that isolation and quarantine recommendations will be followed:

Isolation of a Person Under Investigation

- A Person Under Investigation (PUI) is someone who is suspected of having COVID-19 disease. A person who is being tested for COVID-19 is required to be in isolation until test results are received.
- Possible outcomes of the test result include:
 - If the test result is positive, then the person becomes a case or
 - If the test result is negative and the person has a known exposure, then the person must finish their quarantine period, or
 - If the test result is negative and there was no known exposure, then the person is released from isolation.

Isolation of a Case

- KDHE has developed a useful graphic about the [release from isolation and quarantine](#).
- A symptomatic case should stay home for 10 days from the onset of symptoms OR
- 72 hours after fever is gone without the use of fever reducing medication AND there has been a significant improvement in symptoms
- WHICHEVER IS LONGER. Meaning, isolation for confirmed cases is a minimum of 10 days.
- If the case is asymptomatic, then they should stay home for 10 days since the day their sample was taken. If they develop symptoms during this 10day period, then they would begin a new isolation period as described above for symptomatic cases.

Quarantine of Close Contacts

- A close contact is someone who has been within 6 feet of a case for 10 minutes or more, or had contact with bodily secretions (for example, being coughed or sneezed on) from a case, while the case is infectious.
 - A case is considered infectious starting 48 hours prior to the onset of their first symptom and ending once they meet the 10 day/72hour criteria described above. Anyone who comes within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more, or comes into direct contact with secretions from the case, during this infectious period is considered a close contact.

- If the case was asymptomatic, the infectious period starts 48 hours prior to the day the sample was collected and ending 10 days after the day the sample was collected, as long as the case remains asymptomatic. If the case develops symptoms during the isolation period, then their infectious period ends once they meet the 10 day/72- hour criteria described above. Anyone who comes within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more, or comes into direct contact with secretions from the case, during this infectious period is considered a close contact.
- Close contacts of a confirmed case are in quarantine for 7, 10 or 14 days after their last exposure depending on whether they have been tested for COVID-19 and preference of local health officer. For exposure-related quarantine, quarantine would start the day after your last exposure (See [Shortened Quarantine Guidance](#) below).
- It is important to understand that close household contacts, or close contacts sharing the same living space, cannot begin their quarantine period until they are away from the case while the case is infectious. Meaning, if the close contact continues to share a living space with the case while the case is infectious, then the quarantine period for the close contact cannot begin until the case is no longer infectious and released from isolation.
- If the case was wearing a face mask, or if close contacts were wearing face masks, or if both were wearing face masks, what this does is effectively reduce the risk of close contacts getting sick, but it does not eliminate the risk. All close contacts are quarantined starting with the last exposure to the case while the case is infectious regardless of the mask usage.
- Those who are under a quarantine should not attend school, work or any other setting where they are not able to maintain a 6-foot distance from other people at all times. If they are able to attend settings where they can maintain a 6-foot distance from others, then they can attend as long as they remain asymptomatic. However, this allowance must be made by the county local health officer and is determined on a case by case basis.

Shortened Quarantine Guidance

KDHE continues to recommend a 14-day quarantine following exposure to COVID-19, as the incubation period for this disease is 14 days. CDC has released modified guidance allowing for shorter quarantine periods to increase better compliance with quarantine and increase people getting tested. Local Health Departments may choose to opt into this guidance. For information in your county, please contact your local health department.

How the Shortened Time Period Works

(Please check in with your local health department for specific information in your community)

7 Day Quarantine (Includes Testing and No Symptoms)

- After exposure, you monitor yourself for symptoms daily or participate in monitoring by Public Health for 7 full days.
- If you have no symptoms during this time frame, on or after Day 6, you may get a PCR test (antigen and antibody tests are NOT allowed for this purpose).
- If the test is negative, and you remain symptom-free, you can be removed from quarantine on or after Day 8.
- If Testing Results are pending, you must wait until you receive results.

10 Day Quarantine (No Testing and No Symptoms)

- After exposure, you monitor yourself for symptoms daily or participate in Public Health monitoring for 10 full days.
- If you have no symptoms during the 10 days, you can be released from the quarantine without a test on Day 11.

KDHE recommends all exposed people should self-monitor for fourteen (14) days from exposure and contact healthcare provider if symptoms develop. Disease can still develop through day 14.

Who is Not Eligible for Shortened Quarantine:

- Residents of long-term care and assisted living facilities
- Offender populations in Department of Corrections prisons