

Wolfe City ISD Plan for COVID-19 Rapid Testing

Goal of Testing: With guidance from the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM), Center for Disease Control (CDC), Texas Education Agency (TEA), and Hunt County Health Department; Wolfe City ISD will be implementing a phased-in approach to BinaxNOW rapid COVID-19 testing. Rapid antigen based testing will potentially give Wolfe City ISD the ability to quickly identify and isolate positive individuals before they can transmit the virus to others. In turn, this will help reduce the amount of absences for individuals waiting on test results and help to fast track treatment and quarantine for positive individuals and their close contacts. Participation in BinaxNOW rapid COVID-19 testing is voluntary. Testing is only for Staff, students who are currently enrolled, or other school officials.

Testing Program Coordinator (Point of Contact): Anthony Figueroa - Superintendent
TDEM trained Test Administrators (Overseer of Testing):
Candy Smith, R.N. – District Nurse and/or Anthony Figueroa – Superintendent

*Testing coordinator and testing administrator were trained and certified through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). Proof of Certificate of Training is available by request at the Office of the Superintendent.

COVID SCREENING PROCESS:

1. Call the School District Nurse to set an appointment (appointment times depends on the nurse's schedule and which phase level you belong to).
 - o Candy Smith: smithc@wcisd.net 903.469.9395
2. Bring a Texas Driver License/State Texas ID or Make your personal QR Test Code
3. Scan the QR Code below or go to the website below to pre-populate your data, and save the QR code to your phone or Print a Screen Shot to take with you to testing.
4. Complete and sign (MUST BE IN BLUE OR BLACK INK) a permission slip.
5. Arrive at your testing location (the nurse will tell you where to meet at. Drive through testing will be available for those who are symptomatic.
6. The testing process will take 15 minutes and you will be notified the results viaText, Email, and a call within 15 minutes after the testing.

Go to:

<https://register.txrapidtest.org> or scan



All test results will be submitted to the Hunt County Health Dept., DSHS and TDEM as required.

Current WCISD Guidelines for returning to campus after exposure or confirmed positive case:

- at least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
- the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
- at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- In the case of an individual that is asymptomatic but has received a positive COVID-19 test result, the individual may not return to the campus until ten days have passed since a positive test (return on Day 11).
- Approval by the district nurse or superintendent (if nurse unavailable)

Testing is time and labor intensive. A “Phasing” strategy provides WCISD a way to determine priority of those who are requesting to be tested.

4 Phases to COVID-19 testing:

Phase 1: Rapid COVID-19 testing for symptomatic staff members only.

Phase 2: Rapid COVID-19 testing for symptomatic staff and students. Individuals less than the age of 18 must have parent/guardian permission before testing can be performed.

Phase 3: Rapid COVID-19 testing same as phase 1 and 2 with the addition of asymptomatic and exposure to COVID staff members.

Phase 4: Rapid COVID-19 testing same as phases 1, 2 and 3 but adding asymptomatic and exposure to COVID students. Individuals less than age of 18 must have parent/guardian permission before testing can be performed.

Phase 1 Protocol: Voluntary Symptomatic Staff Members

Phase 1 is voluntary testing for symptomatic staff members at Wolfe City ISD. No one will be required to take a test. They may voluntarily receive the rapid antigen BinaxNOW COVID-19 test after scheduling with the WCISD Nurse’s Office at a time when she is available. The symptoms must be consistent with the current guidelines from the CDC and Hunt County HD. Symptoms are listed below.

1. Sick at Home: If a staff member is sick at home and they want a test, they may call the Nurse’s Office and schedule this test. We will offer a drive up to the back of school (for privacy) and perform the test outside to reduce the risk of exposure to others. Test administrators will be provided PPE to reduce the risk of exposure.
2. Sick at School: If a staff member gets sick while at school, they will be asked to immediately go to the isolation room and may volunteer to receive a test. If they choose not to test or wish to go home, they may do so immediately. This must be done quickly to reduce the spread of the virus.
 - If the test is negative, the staff member should still follow-up with their physician to rule out COVID or receive an alternative diagnosis.
 - If the test is positive, the staff member will be required to stay home/quarantine for the duration the nurse provides (details and timelines will be needed prior to determining the return date).

Symptoms of COVID: (list from CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

1. Fever or chills
2. Cough
3. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
4. Fatigue
5. Muscle or body aches
6. Headache
7. New loss of taste or smell
8. Sore throat
9. Congestion or runny nose
10. Nausea or vomiting
11. Diarrhea

Phase 2 Protocol: Voluntary Symptomatic Students

Phase 2 is voluntary testing of symptomatic students at Wolfe City ISD. The symptoms must be consistent with the current guidelines from the CDC and Hunt County HD. No student will be required to take the test and all students must have parent permission prior to having the test performed. Permission slips will be available online at www.wcisd.net, in the nurse's office and may be sent home with information about the test.

- If the test is negative, the symptomatic student will be sent home following symptomatic protocol. The student should still follow-up with their physician to rule out COVID or receive an alternative diagnosis.
- If the test is positive, the student will be required to stay home/quarantine for the duration the nurse provides (details and timelines will be needed prior to determining the return date).

Phase 3 Protocol: Voluntary Asymptomatic Staff Members

Phase 3 is voluntary testing of asymptomatic staff members and close contact staff members. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a COVID positive individual for greater than 15 consecutive minutes. The staff members are not required to have symptoms. These tests will be scheduled when a test administrator is available.

- If results come back negative, the staff member is not symptomatic and has no history of exposure they can return to work.
- If the results come back negative, the staff member is asymptomatic but has a history of exposure/close contact then that staff member must still remain on quarantine. A negative test doesn't allow the individual to be removed from quarantine. It may still take up to 14 days to test positive if there was an exposure.
- If the test is positive, the staff member will be required to stay home/quarantine for the duration the nurse provides (details and timelines will be needed prior to determining the return date).

Phase 4 Protocol: Voluntary Asymptomatic Students

Phase 4 is voluntary testing of asymptomatic students and close contact students. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a COVID positive individual for greater than 15 consecutive minutes. The students are not required to have symptoms. Parent permission must be provided prior to any testing. Permission slips will be available online at www.wcisd.net, in the nurse's office and may be sent home with information about the test. Tests will be scheduled when a test administrator is available.

- If results come back negative, the student is asymptomatic and has no history of exposure they can return to school.
- If the results come back negative, the student is asymptomatic, but has a history of exposure/close contact then that student must still remain on quarantine. A negative test doesn't allow the individual to be removed from quarantine. It may still take up to 14 days to test positive if there was an exposure.
- If the test is positive, the student will be required to stay home/quarantine for the duration the nurse provides (details and timelines will be needed prior to determining the return date).

FAQs:

1. When does testing begin?
 - WCISD will begin allowing staff and students to sign up to be tested on January 15, 2021
2. Can I test multiple times?
 - Retesting will be available as long as testing kits are available and after two weeks from the previous test. TDEM and Texas A&M AgriLife will restock our testing supplies as tests are entered into the data system, accounting for testing materials.
3. How will I be tested? Is it a shot?
 - The nasal test swab is only inserted to the base tip of the swab. Staff and high school students will "swab" themselves.
4. How accurate is the test?
 - We are told that the test is 95+% accurate.
5. What if I don't have ID?
 - Pre-register at <https://register.txrapidtest.org>
6. Can I complete the permission slip in advance?
 - Yes. If filled out in advance, the parents will still be notified prior to any testing.
7. Can a parent receive the test....even if they are willing to pay?
 - No. Only current WCISD students, staff, and officials are eligible for testing.

Wolfe City ISD is excited to offer this free testing to its students, staff, and officials.

Sincerely,



Anthony R. Figueroa
Superintendent