



In collaboration with the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH), the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) is now offering a COVID-19 testing program at your child's school. As part of the state's testing approach, we are encouraging frequent testing for students in Pre-K-12 schools. Testing in Pre-K-12 schools can identify students who are infected and need to isolate at home to protect other students from getting COVID-19.

Your student's school will offer polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests twice monthly for our interested school population.

Unvaccinated athletes will be required to test weekly.

School-based testing is free and insurance is not required. Testing will start the week of October 18, 2021.

For the test, your student will receive two nasal swabs. One swab will go into a "pool" with 4-6 other samples. The pooled sample will be sent to a lab for PCR-based testing. This approach allows the lab to quickly complete multiple tests. The second swab is an individual sample. The individual sample is only tested at the lab if the pool returns a positive result. This approach enables the lab to quickly identify positive individuals.

PCR test results will be available in one to two days. The school administrator at your student's school will have access to the results of the PCR test. If you have any questions on the program you may reach out to your school's Covid Response Team at 401.349.4365.

In order for your student to participate in this testing program, your permission is needed. Sign below and return this form to the school if you would like your student to participate. Be advised, all unvaccinated athletes are required to participate. Vaccinated athletes can choose to participate.

Child's Name: _____

Child's School: _____

Child's Grade Level: _____

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian's EMAIL: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

For information about the return to 100% in-person learning in Rhode Island's schools, districts' mitigation plans, and Pre-K-12 outbreak response protocols, visit back2schoolri.com.