

BD Triplex Information - January 2023

New COVID-19 and Flu A + B tests are available!

The [Learn to Return](#) program funded by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) provides free COVID-19 testing for Washington K-12 schools. This letter is to inform you that through this program, our school will start offering **BD Veritor SARS-CoV-2 & Flu A+B** testing at our district starting January 9, 2023.

Commonly referred to as BD Triplex, this test detects Flu A + B as well as COVID-19 and can be a useful tool to detect respiratory illnesses during the winter months. Knowing if it is COVID-19 or the flu allows families and caregivers to make informed decisions about staying home and seeking follow-up care as needed. Our goal is to provide a healthy and safe environment for all students, so everyone can get back to in-person learning sooner!

Please see the frequently asked questions about BD Triplex below to help you learn more about this technology:

What is BD Veritor SARS-CoV-2 & Flu A+B test?

Also known as BD Triplex, this test is a rapid antigen test that uses one sample to detect three viruses: COVID-19, flu A, and flu B. It only takes 15 minutes to get clear results for each sample. Watch this [short video](#) for more details on how this test works. You can also look at the BD Veritor for SARS-CoV-2 & Flu A+B Patient Factsheet for more information.

What does this mean for me as a parent/student?

Getting tested with BD Triplex is a similar experience to getting tested with other COVID-19 tests since the sample collection method is the same. BD Triplex's only difference is that it detects flu as well as COVID-19 using a single sample.

What should I do if I want my student to be tested with BD Triplex?

Your next step is to sign a new consent form: Parents/caregivers who want their student to participate in BD Triplex testing must sign a new consent form. Consent forms are available at your child's school or click [HERE](#) to download the form.

What if my student tests positive for Flu A + B or COVID-19?

The school district will share positive flu or COVID-19 results with students and their parents or caregivers who have given consent to be tested. Your student may be sent home with information on the flu or [what to do if you test positive for COVID-19](#). For more information about the flu, please review [Flu: A Guide for Parents](#) and [What to Do if your Child Gets the Flu](#).

Thank you for your continued commitment to keeping our school community safe and healthy.

Questions may be directed to Tracy Souza, Director of Student and Staff Well-Being at (360) 965-0076 or email tracy_souza@msd25.org.