

# County employee COVID testing appointments available

Are you a Kent County employee in need of a COVID-19 test? Starting January 10, 2022, only County employees can make an appointment via a Google forms link and receive a paramedic administered rapid test at the Department of Public Safety located at 911 Public Safety Blvd. in Dover.

The testing process takes about 30 minutes from collection to results. Employees will be required to wait for their test results – although it may be in your vehicle or a separated room. The paramedic will provide a dated statement of results to each employee tested and while not as accurate as a PCR test, these test results tend to be very predictive of positivity.



The Covid testing appointment form link is: <https://forms.gle/ivkUc4Ue1G8DRdC86>

Once the appointment form is completed and submitted, a confirmation will be emailed to the employee. This testing service is available only to Kent County employees at this time, but may be expanded to close family at a later date.

COVID-19 testing sites are widely available in Delaware and until recently are easily assessable. Employees with questions regarding COVID-19 testing should consult the Division of Public Health website: <https://coronavirus.delaware.gov>

If a County employee tests positive, they must immediately begin isolation at home and may use a copy of the test results provided by the Department of Public Safety or other testing site for sick leave/payroll submission purposes. If positive, the employee should immediately inform their supervisor and the Personnel Office.

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (**Isolate**), regardless of vaccination status:

- Stay home for 5 days if VACCINATED, 10 days if UNVACCINATED.
- If VACCINATED and have no symptoms or symptoms have resolved after 5 days, return to work. Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- If UNVACCINATED and have no symptoms or symptoms have resolved, return to work after 10 days or submit a NEGATIVE test (PCR) after 5 days. Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- If you have a fever after the 5 or 10 days, continue to stay home until you are fever free for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.

If You Are Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (**Quarantine\***):

- Stay home for 5 days if UNVACCINATED\*. After that continue to wear a mask at all times.
  - Test on day 5.
  - If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home for 10 days
- Stay home for 5 days if VACCINATED but NOT BOOSTED\* when eligible (*5 to 6 months after 2nd shot of Pfizer/Moderna*). After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
  - Test on day 5 if possible.
  - If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home for 10 days
- Fully VACCINATED & BOOSTED or not yet eligible for booster, then report to work and wear a mask around others for 10 days.
  - Test on day 5, if possible.
  - If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.

Approved face masks includes tight fitting woven cloth or paper designed for such purpose with ear loops and covering the entire nose and mouth (Neck gaiters/face shields are not approved).

Employees absent from work for a COVID-19 related reason such as symptoms; positive test; exposure or close contact to someone testing positive, with symptoms, or in close contact with another such person; screening question failure; Division of Public Health or other directive; quarantine/isolation order; school or childcare issues related to COVID-19; etc. must use accrued sick leave. Available personal leave or vacation may also be used. Submit a copy of any test results to the Personnel Office.

Employees directed to remain home should not return to the workplace for any reason until authorized/directed to do so. Employees are responsible for maintaining regular contact with their Department Head or appropriate supervisor during COVID related isolation or quarantine and after the initial call, update the Personnel Director if health conditions change. Each exposure is assessed individually based upon the specific information provided by the employee and CDC/DPH guidance.

According to the CDC, people infected with the COVID or spreading variants often report a headache or feeling fatigue/out of sorts. While others experience the well-known flu-like symptoms of cough, sore throat, fever, breathing issues, body aches, nausea, loss of taste or smell, congestion, etc. Some infected with a variant or COVID report no symptoms at all. The new Omicron variant seems to spread easily.

Employees should continue to regularly wash hands for at least 20 seconds with warm water, use hand sanitizer, avoid touching the face, etc. Please continue to be aware of surroundings and avoid exposing the unvaccinated, young children, or immune compromised to COVID or a variant.

*(posted 01/06/22)*