



COVID Testing Page – Frequently Asked Questions

Revised 1/8/2021

- 1. Is the free testing available to City employee's antibody or diagnostic testing?**
 - a. Our providers are not currently providing antibody or diagnostic testing. The nasal swab PCR test is what is currently being used.

- 2. Several field employees have tested positive for COVID-19, unfortunately it's kept as a secret from other employees within the organization why?**
 - a. Affected employees meeting the definition of close contact are notified of their potential exposure. If they are interested in being tested, they are provided instructions on how to do this.

- 3. If an employee is being tested for COVID-19, do they continue to work while waiting for the results?**
 - a. If asymptomatic, and awaiting results, they may continue to work unless otherwise directed (e.g. their PCP, the Department Director places them off work).
 - b. No employee should be at work symptomatic, so if they're waiting for test results in this case, they wait at home.

- 4. Where is the paperwork for the test?**
 - a. https://tucsonaz.seamlessdocs.com/f/COVID19_Testing

- 5. How much will it cost my family?**
 - a. The testing is provided at no cost to COT employees and their family members.

- 6. Are retired employees and spouses eligible for testing?**
 - a. Currently, retired employees are not eligible for testing. If the retired employee is a family member of a current employee, they would be eligible.
The City of Tucson and Pima County continue to offer free COVID-19 testing at Udall and El Pueblo centers to any community member who wishes to get tested. These free walk-up testing sites are being administered by appointment only. Schedule an appointment online or call 800-369-3584. More info: www.pima.gov/covid19testing.

- 7. Will the city attempt to perform antibody testing for employees?**
 - a. Not at the current time.

- 8. How come MBI does not contact the employee directly with the results?**
 - a. The lab is responsible for contacting those tested via email. Please check your spam or junk folders. You may hear from Lynn Wojcik in Risk Management directly, prior to hearing from the lab as well.

- 9. If the clinic is booked when I call to schedule an appointment, what do I do?**
 - a. Please ask for the next available appointment or try one of the other contracted providers to inquire as to whether they can see you more quickly.

- 10. If we are not covered by city health (opt out) are family still covered?**
 - a. Yes

- 11. Can a supervisor authorize testing?**
 - a. No. If the testing is not voluntary, all tests must be authorized by Risk Management.



COVID Testing Page – Frequently Asked Questions

Revised 1/8/2021

- 12. How many times are you allowed to get tested through the City? For example: you test negative but later you start feeling symptoms and want to get tested again. Would you be able to get tested again?**
- The testing limit has been waived; if you have been exposed and/or have experienced COVID-19 symptoms, you are encouraged to get tested.
- 13. If someone is asymptomatic but has had exposure, why would we allow them to come to the office? A lot of people can have COVID and be asymptomatic.**
- The City is following the guidelines of AZDHS/CDC and the County Health Department and currently there is no requirement to isolate when asymptomatic. People are most contagious when they are symptomatic. Additionally, there is the mandate to wear face covers, and face covers help in preventing the spread of droplets to others when speaking, coughing or sneezing. HOWEVER, depending on the specifics of the situation, an employee may be asked to isolate by a physician or by the department.
- 14. If my employee shows up to work sick, or calls out with symptoms, can I send them to one of our clinics to be tested?**
- No. If the employee wishes to be voluntarily tested, they may elect to go that route for testing.
- 15. What if I forget to take my form or ID for my voluntary test?**
- You will not be seen and will need to reschedule your appointment.
- 16. If I am a contracted employee (e.g. with SunTran, OB Sports, etc.), can I be tested?**
- Yes. You will complete the form and contact El Rio to schedule an appointment.
 -
- 17. Will the immediate family members be covered for testing? Also, to what extent of family will be covered for COVID19 testing i.e. Mom, Dad etc.?**
- Family/Household members may be voluntarily tested. Please go to the City's COVID page and follow the links to the testing request form. One form is needed for each family member. Family members will contact El Rio to schedule an appointment, please remember to take the form to the appointment.
- 18. How accurate are these tests?**
- The nasal swab is approved by the FDA and results are considered accurate.
- 19. Do I have to report a positive test to my supervisor/the City?**
- Yes. All + results must be reported to the City.
- 20. What if I have COVID-like symptoms and get tested, but my result is negative?**
- If you have concerns, please contact your healthcare provider. You may have another medical condition (e.g. pneumonia, sinus infection, etc.)