

SBCEO Surveillance Testing Frequently Asked Questions

Last updated February 22, 2021

REGISTERING

Why is my insurance member identification number required?

Insurance may be billed for tests but there is no out-of-pocket cost to you as an individual, regardless of your insurance type.

How can I preview the questions they will ask before I register?

Click [HERE](#) to preview the questions for registration.

Why does the registration survey include questions about race and gender? Do I need to answer all of the questions?

The information is used to prepare results and help evaluate how COVID-19 is impacting communities. Some of the questions have the option to select "I prefer not to say" or "I don't know."

Does my registration cover all testing sites or is the registration for a specific site?

Each testing site has its own registration link. When you register, click on the link for your preferred testing location. If you decide to change testing locations, you must re-register using the appropriate link.

[SBCEO Farnel Road](#) (Santa Maria) beginning Monday, March 1, 11am - 4pm

[SBCEO Lompoc](#) (515 West College Ave, Lompoc) beginning Wednesday, March 3, 11am-3pm

[SBCEO Cathedral Oaks](#) (Santa Barbara) beginning Monday, March 8, 11am - 4pm

Is there a way to view my test results on a website?

Login [HERE](#) to view your test results once the specimen has been collected. Your date of birth and the barcode found on the handout accompanying your test kit are required to view your results.

GENERAL

Why do I have to take a COVID-19 test if I do not have any symptoms?

All school staff are required to participate in regular surveillance testing per the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (SBCPHD) and consistent with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) guidance. Regular COVID-19 surveillance testing is one of the layers of health and safety mitigation SBCEO has adopted that helps prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Do I need to test with SBCEO if I already participate in routine surveillance testing with the school district where my position is located?

Employees who are regularly testing with another school district (e.g. Cold Spring, Montecito) or organization (e.g. Probation) do not need to participate in SBCEO testing. These employees will continue to complete an SBCEO attestation form through InformedK12, however, confirming their most recent date of testing with the partner entity.

Do I need to participate in this testing process if I recently tested with a healthcare provider or at one of the state or county public health testing sites?

Yes. You still need to participate in this process even if you recently tested for other purposes. If you are symptomatic or quarantining due to close contact with someone who has tested

positive with COVID-19, please do not come to the SBCEO surveillance testing sites. Instead, inform your supervisor and schedule a test with at one of the free SBCPHD testing sites (805-705-7279), State Optum testing sites (Pre-registration: <https://www.lhi.care/covidtesting>), or with your healthcare provider.

Why is monitoring required while I am self-administering the test?

In order to obtain accurate results, it's important the testing procedure be followed consistently and that it is monitored by trained staff.

Who will be observing the test administration?

In some cases, the observer will be a nurse; in other cases, the observer may be a trained SBCEO staff member. All observers are trained to maintain the confidentiality of your personal health information.

Can someone test negative and later test positive on a viral test?

Yes, it is possible to have different results during the infectious window. You may test negative if the sample was collected early in your infection and then test positive later during the illness. You could also be exposed to COVID-19 after the test and become infected. Even if you test negative, you must continue to follow all adopted health and safety measures to prevent the spread.

How will the test results be provided?

You will receive a text at the phone number you provided when registering. If you provided an email address, you will also receive an email with a link to check your results. Lastly, you may visit color.com/covid-test to check your results. Your date of birth and the barcode found on the handout accompanying your test kit are required to view your results.

What will happen if my test comes back positive?

If you are at work when you receive the results, please inform your supervisor and colleagues (by email or phone) that you must return to your home promptly. Wear your mask and remain physically distanced from others as you leave. Once home, contact your supervisor at once to discuss isolation and the possibility of remote work. Your supervisor will consult with the division lead or Human Resources as needed.

Personal leaves are not used during the infectious period with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19. Public Health will automatically be notified by the lab of any positive cases of COVID-19. Your supervisor or division lead will contact you to do contact tracing.

What does an inconclusive or unsatisfactory test result mean?

Inconclusive results mean that test results could not be classified as either positive or negative. Unsatisfactory results are issued for invalid or failed samples. In either case, re-testing is recommended.

Who is exempt from surveillance testing?

Anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 is exempt from testing for 90 days after the initial test date. Human Resources maintains a list of individuals in this category. In addition, individuals on an approved leave or individuals who have been approved to solely work remotely without any work at SBCEO locations will also be exempt from surveillance testing during the approved leave or remote work timeframe. If you are symptomatic or quarantining due to close contact with someone who has tested positive with COVID-19, please do not come to the SBCEO surveillance testing sites. Instead, inform your supervisor and schedule a test

with at one of the free SBCPHD testing sites (805-705-7279), State Optum testing sites (Pre-registration: <https://www.lhi.care/covidtesting>), or with your healthcare provider.

If I have been vaccinated, do I still need to test?

Yes. At this time, there is not enough data on whether vaccination protects the virus from being transmitted to another individual.