



Good Day Families,

Orange Public Schools COVID-19 “At-Home” Testing Kit Program

Keeping school buildings open depends upon awareness of and immediate action on any COVID-19 concerns in our buildings. To do this, we need students and staff in our buildings to get tested! That is why we have instituted *voluntary* weekly testing in all reopened school buildings on May 24, 2021. The program **will continue** to be offered to accommodate the students and staff members who opt-in to participate in the program. In an effort offer staff and students another option to participate in the district’s COVID-19 Testing Program, the district applied and was accepted to participate in the Department of Health “At—Home” COVID-19 Testing Kit Program. The “At—Home” COVID-19 Testing Kit Program, will be offered to staff and students during **mid-January 2023**.

I. Overview

- This program is being provided at **no cost** to the district, staff, parents, and/or students.
- Everyone qualifies regardless if they have insurance or not. Insurance is **not required**, and your insurance company will not be contacted regarding the program.
- The “At-Home” Testing Kit Program **does not** replace the current in-school testing program. Students and staff can participate in both programs.
- Each month, NJDOH/DOE has authorized schools/districts to order **2** tests per staff/student population.
- If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse at your school.
- For information regarding the district's COVID-19 Program, visit: www.orange.k12.nj.us/COVIDResources

How often will the testing kits be offered?

District staff and families will have to complete an online form that will be sent out on a monthly basis. Only 2 kits will be available per staff member or student.

- An enrollment form will be sent out by schools **monthly** to staff and families. The form must be completed for staff and students to participate during the month. This information will assist schools to determine the number of testing kits to order.
- The testing kits will be distributed by the school nurse. For students, the testing kits will be delivered via the school nurse to student homerooms for distribution to students who are participating in the program.

Can parents participate in the “At-Home COVID -19 Testing Program?

Unfortunately, no. The Department of Health is only offering the program to district staff members and students.

Please note.....

1. The “At-Home” Testing Kit Program does not replace the current onsite testing program. Students and staff can participate in both programs.
2. The enrollment form that will be sent out by schools must be filled out **monthly** for staff and students to participate.

Who do I contact regarding questions about the District "At-Home" COVID-19 Testing Kit Program?

Please contact the school nurse.

Who do I contact about questions at my school?

Contact the school building principal or send an email regarding your questions to **reopeningofschools@orange.k12.nj.us**.

For more information and to view the district's COVID-19 Testing Program Schedule, please visit the district website (COVID-19 Resources Page) at: <https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/COVIDResources>

"The Orange Public School District commits to provide a safe and caring environment where each student is expected to grow and succeed. We pledge to prepare all students with equitable opportunities for college and career readiness, leading to lifelong learning and responsible citizenship in a competitive global community."

"Good to Great"

Regards,

Gerald Fitzhugh, 

Gerald Fitzhugh II, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools