

COVID-19 Testing Guidance for Summer Camps

June 2022



COVID-19 testing is a key strategy that can be utilized by summer camps to identify COVID-19 cases early and prevent transmission from occurring in the camp setting. KDHE strongly recommends summer camps offer COVID-19 testing for all participants and staff. **Free COVID-19 testing resources are available for summer camps through KDHE. For more information, please contact Kim Boucher at (316) 243-8364 or kimberly.boucher@ks.gov.**

COVID-19 Test Options

- 1) Point of care (POC) tests can be used on-site (rapid antigen or rapid PCR). POC tests are administered by trained staff and require a CLIA certificate of waiver.
- 2) At home Over-the-Counter (OTC) tests can be used on-site or can be sent home with participants/staff. OTC tests are self-administered and do not require a CLIA certificate of waiver.

Camps can choose to use either POC, OTC, or both test options based on camp needs and resources.

Testing Strategies

Camps should follow the legal requirements related to consent for testing. Participants should not be tested without consent or, in the case of minors, guardian consent. Test results should be kept confidential consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and policies. Participants/staff who test positive should isolate at home for at least 5 full days and properly wear a well-fitting mask for 5 full days following isolating at home. Obtaining a negative antigen test (taken on day 6) before returning to camp is recommended.

Camps may choose to implement any of the following testing strategies. For overnight or camps lasting more than 2 days, a combination of Screening, Diagnostic and Exposure testing is recommended.

- **Screening testing:** Regularly test participants and staff even if they do not have symptoms of COVID-19 or do not have a known exposure.
 - Pre-arrival screening testing: provide two OTC self-tests to participants/staff to take 48 and 24 hours before camp begins.
 - Screening testing on arrival: test participants/staff on arrival at camp using POC tests.
 - Routine screening testing: test participants/staff every other day using POC tests (for overnight camps) or send OTC tests home for testing every other day.
- **Diagnostic testing (testing people with symptoms):** Offer diagnostic testing via POC tests to support participants and staff who become symptomatic during camp.
- **Testing following exposure:**
 - Participants or staff exposed to COVID-19 **who are NOT up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations and who do not have a history of COVID-19 in the past 90 days should quarantine at home for 5 full days.** If symptoms develop, they should get tested immediately. If no symptoms develop, they should get tested at least 5 days after exposure. They should wear a well-fitting mask while around others and monitor for symptoms for 10 full days.
 - Participants/staff exposed to COVID-19 **who are up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations or who have a history of COVID-19 in the past 90 days can remain at camp and do not need to quarantine.** They should properly wear a well-fitting mask while around others and monitor for symptoms for 10 full days and be tested at least 5 days after exposure.

Additional Resources

- For additional camp specific risk reduction guidance and educational materials to reduce potential exposure and spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, please visit:
[Field Guide for Camps | American Camp Association \(acacamps.org\)](#).
[FAQ for Overnight Camps - CDC](#)
- To find out more about COVID-19 community levels and prevention steps in your county, please visit <https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov.html>.