

Norcross Cluster schools will offer COVID testing for students beginning in January... Sign up now!

What is surveillance testing?

Surveillance testing involves regular testing for the presence of COVID-19 in individuals in the school setting who do not have symptoms. Surveillance testing will allow GCPS to test, receive test results (within 24 hours), and notify individuals of a clinically significant reading. By participating, students and staff members can help to minimize the spread of the virus within our schools, which benefits us all.

Who can participate in surveillance testing?

At this time, surveillance testing will be offered to staff and all students in the Norcross Cluster schools who have selected to attend school in person and who opt in.

What kind of testing is used?

This testing involves a test that uses a short Qtip-type swab to collect a sample from inside the nose.

Where is testing going to occur?

Individuals in the Norcross Cluster who sign up will be tested at their school or building site.

When will the testing begin?

The lab conducting the test will visit your child's school one time a week beginning the week of January 10, 2022. Testing will occur only in weeks when community transmission levels are at the "Moderate," "Substantial," or "High" levels.

Why is GCPS providing COVID testing?

Testing will help us to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our classes and schools. In almost half of COVID cases, the individual does not experience symptoms, but can still spread COVID-19, which is why testing regularly helps to prevent spread and keep our students learning in person. Weekly testing helps to identify and isolate positive cases before they spread. Minimizing spread in school helps keep our school open and all our students in class more often!

Will my student have to miss class to be tested?

The testing itself takes a matter of seconds for each student and will easily fit into their day without disrupting learning.



How do I sign up?

Scan this QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/GCPSstudentCOVIDtest>.

Will this testing replace other mitigation strategies?

No, surveillance testing does not take the place of our current mitigation strategies, including wearing masks, maintaining physical distance as feasible, practicing good hand hygiene, frequent and regular cleaning and sanitizing, implementing enhanced air ventilation strategies, and monitoring any health concerns or symptoms.

Is surveillance testing required?

While participation in surveillance testing is not required, it is strongly encouraged.

Who tests the samples?

LTS is the lab that will provide screening services.

What if my student tests positive?

The student will need to quarantine at home until a follow-up PCR test can confirm the positive reading. Students/staff may not come to school during the quarantine period unless the PCR test provides a negative result. It is important to know that even if your child tests positive in the school surveillance testing there is no cause for panic. You will receive additional information on the steps to take for follow-up testing and isolation. Students/staff who receive a negative result will not receive any notification.

Surveillance Testing

- GCPS will begin a COVID-19 surveillance testing pilot in all of the schools in the Norcross Cluster.
- This is another layered mitigation strategy being used to support safe, in-person instruction.
- Each school's lab partner will come to campus once a week and provide testing to any student and staff member who has completed a consent form (Opt-in). High school student athletes who opt in may be tested more often.
- This is completely voluntary and is being offered only to those who wish to be tested.
- The lab will perform a swab test and the school will be able to retrieve those results the following day.
- Current processes for contact tracing, isolation, quarantine, communication to parents, etc., will continue to take place in the event any staff member or student tests positive.



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