

DOH/Walgreens Partnership



Background/general information

The State of Washington has partnered with Walgreens to offer **no-cost drive-thru BinaxNOW antigen testing** for people with symptoms of COVID-19 or who have been determined by their local Health Department to have had close contact* with someone who has tested positive. The goal is to make testing more accessible, leading to more timely medical care and reduced community transmission in areas with a participating Walgreens pharmacy.

Testing services are offered to patients age 3 and up, and include:

- **Diagnostic Lab Tests** (PCR) with varying result times
- **Rapid Diagnostic Tests** (ID NOW) with a 24-hour result time
- **Rapid Antigen Tests** (BinaxNOW) with a 1-hour result time

Not all locations provide all testing options. Availability can be found on the registration site.



Process

Community members can schedule a test by registering at the Walgreens website. Registration includes a quick questionnaire about symptoms, potential recent contacts, and medical conditions. After determining eligibility, patients will choose a location and time for the test. While at the testing location, participants will approach the drive-thru window in a motor vehicle or bicycle and present ID and confirmation of the appointment. The participant will use a nasal swab to self-administer the test.

The registration page can be found here: <https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/covid19/testing>

Cost

There is no cost to those being tested. Patients **will** be asked for insurance information but will still be able to be tested at no cost if they do not have insurance. Walgreens offers multiple types of COVID testing at no cost, though the program with DOH exclusively involves the BixnaxNOW antigen test.

Additional Information

Recognizing that online registration may be a barrier to vulnerable populations seeking testing, local health jurisdictions and community partners are encouraged to assist with registration when possible. Appointments can also be made by calling a participating store, though this is not the preferred option. Walk-in registration is not available and Walgreens will not accept patients walking up to the drive-thru window.

*The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has defined having had a “close contact” as when, “[s]omeone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset.”

Contacts

Questions and comments can be directed to the Department of Health:

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To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.

For more information about testing

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/TestingforCOVID19>

Washington State Department of Health