

New Mexico ELC - Reopening of Schools

COVID-19 Testing and Screening Program

Application

School Year 2021-22

To reduce transmission of COVID-19 and to support in-person classroom instruction, the NM DOP is providing funding to support New Mexico Schools in COVID-19 testing available to districts and schools¹ that apply at no cost through the end of the 2021-22 school year.

The NM ELC- Reopening of Schools COVID-19 Testing Program offers a variety of options for all schools and school districts. Districts and schools may choose between the below options, and they are welcome to change or add testing options throughout the school year. To minimize the impact of quarantining due to exposure to COVID-19, it is strongly recommended districts participate in the diagnostic components of the COVID-19 Testing Program.

- **Diagnostic Testing:** Used when individuals present symptoms while at school; individuals should not go to school if experiencing symptoms while at home): Shallow nasal swab samples are collected at school using the BinaxNOW rapid antigen test or COVID testing supplied by PMG (rapid PCR).
- **Screening Testing:** Used to identify COVID infection in an asymptomatic group of individuals who do not have known exposures intended to identify infected individuals before they develop symptoms or to identify infected individuals who may not develop symptoms, so that measures can be taken to prevent further spread.
 - **Testing Methods for screening:** *Pooled Testing* Shallow nasal swab samples are collected at school and put into a single tube (maximum of 10 samples per tube). If a group tests positive, individual Follow-Up testing occurs at the school with BinaxNOW and/or individual PCR testing, as necessary. Or *Lab-Based Follow-Up Testing:* Shallow nasal or saliva samples are collected and kept separate before being grouped at the lab. If a group tests positive, individual Follow-Up testing occurs at the lab. Individual test results are reported to the school.

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School or School District Application

I, _____ School District or _____ school is applying for the following options for the NM ELC-Reopening of schools COVID-19 Testing Program.

School Awards Program

Must either conduct COVID-19 testing with staff, contract with testing provider, or use PMG testing options.

- BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag for diagnostic testing, screening, staff surveillance using school staff
- Outsourcing to SBHC, Community Provider, FQHC, or Hospital for either or all diagnostic testing, screening, staff surveillance
- PMG Rapid PCR for diagnostic, screening, and staff surveillance using school staff
- Pooled Testing for screening and staff surveillance using school staff
- Both School Awards Program and Full-Service PMG Testing Program**
 - Pooled Testing for screening and staff surveillance
 - Rapid PCR for screening and staff surveillance
 - Individual Testing for screening and staff surveillance
 - BinaxNOW COVID-19 AG for diagnostic testing
- Decline participation in the NM ELC- Reopening of Schools COVID -19 Testing Program**

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Position Title: _____