



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Governor

DAVID R. SCRASE, M.D.
Acting Cabinet Secretary

New Mexico Laboratory POC Testing in Schools Guidelines

New Mexico schools who would like to offer point of care laboratory testing services at school may refer to the following guidance on testing requirements and considerations.

1. Obtain CLIA Waiver

Laboratory testing procedures in the school setting should be administered per [Clinical Laboratories Improvement Act \(CLIA\)](#) regulations. Schools can apply for their own CLIA Waiver by submitting the [CMS-116](#) form and application fee to CLIA.DHI@state.nm.us. Schools also have an option at this time of participating in the [Four Corners Regional Education Cooperative 1 School Umbrella CLIA Waiver Program](#) at no cost by entering an MOU with REC 1 under their CLIA Waiver. All laboratory tests conducted at the school are required to be listed on the CLIA Waiver application.

2. Obtain Medical Authorization

Schools and school staff also need to obtain medical authorization (standing order) from a licensed health care provider for each laboratory test being performed. Testing without medical authorization could have legal implications on both the individual conducting the testing and the school/district. See: [New Mexico Statutes Section 61-6-20 \(2018\) - Practicing without license; penalty. :: 2018 New Mexico Statutes :: US Codes and Statutes :: US Law :: Justia](#)

Currently the New Mexico Department of Health Regional Health Officers have developed standing orders for school use for three POC tests: urine pregnancy, covid 19, and flu testing. For requirements or questions on obtaining standing orders, please contact your NM DOH School Health Advocate, Regional Health Officer, or OSAH State School Health Consultant. Standing orders are reviewed and issued annually.

3. Other Considerations

Laboratory testing in schools should be supported by school district policy. Testing procedures are to include a process for:

- obtaining consent
- confidentiality measures
- training and appropriate licensure
- documentation
- evaluation of result
- appropriate referrals and response
- reporting guidelines

Note that this guidance differs for students with individualized testing orders from their personal provider, such as blood glucose checks ordered for students with diabetes. For further guidance or questions, please contact those listed below.

Contacts:

NW School Health Advocate: Leslie Berry
505-490-7948 leslie.berry@state.nm.us

SW School Health Advocate: Crista Pierce
575-339-4380 crista.pierce@state.nm.us

NE School Health Advocate: Katherine LaRose
505-469-3010 katherine.larose@state.nm.us

SE School Health Advocate: Maricelda Pisana
575-528-8863 maricelda.pisana@state.nm.us

Metro School Health Advocate: Rhonda Miranda
505-467-9292 rhonda.miranda@state.nm.us

OSAH State School Health Consultant
505-490-2763 susan.acosta@state.nm.us

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

Southeast Region Administrative Office • 1912 W. Second St. • Roswell, NM 88201
(505) 222-4620 • Fax 575-347-2537 • www.nmhealth.org