

COVID-19: Information about Back-to-School Testing

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CURRENT TESTING OF NYC SCHOOLS

On September 2, BioReference Laboratories announced its pilot testing program with New York City by testing principals, teachers, administration and other staff for COVID-19 in anticipation of the 2020-2021 school year across the five boroughs. Based on the custom workflow solution BioReference provided, New York City has requested the testing program to continue throughout the school year and will include students in addition to school staff.

ABOUT COVID-19

The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is a new virus of global health significance caused by infection of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic.

At BioReference, our priority remains in the health and safety of the communities we serve, and we are doing our part to deliver answers during these uncertain times. For schools, regular testing for COVID-19 is imperative in maintaining a safe environment for principals, teachers, students, administration and all other staff.

COVID-19 TESTING FROM BIOREFERENCE

BioReference offers a real-time reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (real-time RT-PCR) assay, providing accurate and timely test results to ensure greater access to testing, promote earlier diagnosis and help limit the subsequent spread of infection. The test detects the presence of SARS-CoV-2 and is for use with patients who meet current guidance for evaluation of infection with COVID-19.

The test has been made available pursuant to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for diagnostic testing in CLIA Certified high-complexity laboratories. The test has been validated, and is being performed at BioReference.

CUSTOMIZED WORKFLOW SOLUTIONS FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL TESTING



Mobile Collection On-site

COVID-19 PCR testing is completed with an anterior nasal sample. BioReference is able to provide a host organization with on-site collection services to help ensure proper specimen collection and handling.



Customizable Resulting

All positive cases are reported to the patient and/or guardian, as well as designated school contacts with proper authorization. Considering the urgency of testing in a school setting, BioReference also offers real-time result reporting, which helps ensure that once a positive result is received, BioReference notifies the appropriate contact(s).



Testing Process

To support back-to-school strategies and COVID-19 testing efforts, BioReference is pleased to offer digital registration and check-in, onsite testing collection, HIPAA compliant secure online result access, and educational resources for individuals.



Educational Tools

Individuals may have questions about test the testing process and what their results mean. BioReference is able to provide educational tools that include information on getting tested, how to access results, and what those results mean.



Reporting Results

BioReference's turnaround time for COVID-19 PCR molecular testing is about 48 to 72 hours from the time a specimen is received in the laboratory.



Streamlined Testing

Understanding the need for streamlining the testing process, BioReference offers a customizable preregistration approach to organize and notify individuals when they will be tested.

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