Host a Free COVID-19 Testing Site

Pierce County and Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department will partner with your organization to provide public testing.

Schedule the mobile testing trailer.

- Email PCEOC@piercecountywa.gov.
- Include your organization name, contact information and proposed testing location.
- We will contact you to determine when to bring the trailer to your site.
- You can use our flyer or make your own, but we’ll need to review and approve it.

Questions?
Testing Trailer FAQs
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Testing Trailer FAQs

Who can request the trailers?
Public agencies, local governments, private businesses and institutions.

Is this drive through or walk-up testing?
You can do one or both. It depends on your need and available space.

Who supplies PPE for the testing event?
Pierce County supplies all the PPE. Everyone on site has gloves, masks and a face shield if they interact with people.

Do people need to make an appointment to get tested at the trailers?
No, trailers operate on a first-come, first-serve method. We will develop a pre-registration form and appointment times if testing trailers become more popular.

How do we manage physical distancing at the testing sites?
We implement protocols for people to wear masks and stay 6 feet away from others. Staff helping people take the tests wear full PPE gear. Volunteer staff are on site to monitor and encourage physical distancing. People can get tested while in their vehicles.

Is the organization who requests the trailer responsible to setup, schedule and manage the people being tested?
Pierce County Emergency Management will coordinate scheduling and resources. Each trailer can support 300-500 tests per event.

Is the trailer completely self-contained or is there an expectation for garbage cans and medical waste containers?
The trailer is self-contained with its own water supply and power. All garbage from the testing event goes back with the trailer. We will use electricity if we have permission from the host.

How do I arrange for a trailer?
Email PCEOC@piercecountywa.gov. Include your contact information, prospective dates, location, and estimated number of people to be tested. If you need translators or interpreters, let us know.

Pierce County Emergency Management staff will contact you to determine a date. Several days before the event, a staff member will conduct a site visit and make preliminary plans.

Why do you need to approve the flyer?
We need to make sure the same information is shared with everyone in the community.
COVID-19 Testing FAQs

These FAQs can help hosts explaining the test event to their audience.

How much is the test?
The test is free.

Do people have to provide identification or insurance information?
No. We don’t ask for ID. Volunteers ask for a phone number to contact people with the test results.

Who should get tested?
Everyone should get tested, especially:

• People who believe they were exposed to someone who has COVID-19.
• People with COVID-19 symptoms.
• Populations with higher rates of COVID-19:
  ° Individuals exposed to an outbreak in a congregate setting (e.g., long term care facility, shelter, correctional setting, agricultural worker temporary housing, meat-packing plant, etc.).
  ° Alaska Native, American Indian, Black, Hawaiian, Latinx and Pacific Islander.
  ° People who have been in large-group settings.
• All newborns born to parents who are suspected of having or who have tested positive for COVID-19.
• People undergoing procedures that increase the risk of aerosolized particle spread.
• People undergoing invasive surgical procedures (if possible, test within 48 hours of procedure).
• People caring for a member of a vulnerable or at-risk group.

Can unaccompanied minors get a test?
Yes, minors can get a test if they bring a written note from a parent or guardian with permission to test for COVID-19.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

• Fever or chills.
• Cough.
• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
• Fatigue.
• Muscle or body aches.
• Headache.
• New loss of taste or smell.
• Sore throat.
• Stuffy or runny nose.
• Nausea or vomiting.
• Diarrhea.

What type of test is it?
A nasal swab. It is not painful, just uncomfortable for a moment.

(Continued on next page.)
COVID-19 Testing FAQs

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How long will results take?
Dispatch Health, the medical provider conducting the tests, typically receives test results within 48 hours.

- They will contact people with positive results as quick as possible and normally within 24 hours of receiving test results.
- People with negative results are normally contacted within 5 to 7 days of receiving test results.
- Results can take longer if there is a backlog at the testing laboratory or with contact tracing staff notifying people of their results. We contact people with positive results sooner than those with negative results.

Who delivers the results?
Dispatch Health, the medical provider who conducts the tests will deliver the results.

If I don’t receive my results after 5-7 days, who do I call?
Call Dispatch Health at (253) 271-9720.

How will you share the test results, and with whom?
Patient privacy is important. Results are shared with the person who takes the test. The Health Department receives any positive results. They only use the information to support case and contact investigation.
COVID-19 Testing

Pierce County brings free testing to you.

Volunteers help you register on site. No ID required. Results in 5-7 days.

Anyone can be tested.

It’s important to get tested if you:

- Experience fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle pain, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, stuffy or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.
- Were close to a person with COVID-19 or attended a gathering with many people.
- Are a member of an at-risk community—Alaska Native, American Indian, Black, Hawaiian, Latinx and Pacific Islander.

Day, Month Date
Time a.m. - Time p.m.
Place
Address
City WA Zip Code

Learn more at piercecountywa.gov/mobiletesting or tpchd.org/covidtest.