

HOMEBOUND COVID-19 RAPID TEST KIT PROGRAM FAQ

Q: Who can receive an at-home test kit through the Homebound Testing Program?

A: To qualify for a test kit, you must:

- Be a homebound resident of Baltimore City
- Have one or more possible symptoms of COVID-19, especially if you were recently exposed to someone with COVID-19
- Have difficulty with transportation
- Be willing to report your test result to the health department

Homebound individuals can be people who need the help of another person or an assistive device such as a walker or wheelchair to leave their home, or whose health could worsen if they leave their home.

Q: How can I request a test kit?

A: To request a test kit, call or text Civic Works: 410-929-5448. If you leave a message, please leave your name, phone number, reason for calling, and whether you need help with taking the test.

Civic Works will attempt to deliver the test kits within 24 hours, on Monday through Saturday from 9am to 6pm. Requests made over the weekend will be followed up the following Monday. Test kit delivery may be delayed due to inclement weather or supply shortage. Each household is limited to 2 test kits per month.

Q: What if I need help taking my home test?

A: Civic Works staff can help you. Please include whether you need help testing yourself when you call to make a request. You should be willing to have a staff member who is wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) come into your home to help you with the test.

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Q: What if I test **POSITIVE**?

A: You likely have COVID-19 and are contagious, even if you have no symptoms and feel well. Next steps:

1. **REPORT YOUR RESULTS.** See below for three ways to report your result.
2. **ISOLATE at home.** Stay home for at least 5 days and wear a mask around others, even at home. If you no longer have symptoms, wear a mask until after day 10. If you rely on a direct service provider or caregiver, ask them to wear a mask and wash their hands before and after assisting you. If you live in a group setting such as a nursing home, isolate for 10 days.
3. **Tell your close contacts** that they may have been exposed to COVID-19. A close contact is anyone who you were within 6 feet for a combined total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
4. **Contact your healthcare provider as soon as possible**, as you may need additional testing and treatment.
5. **Answer the call.** If you are called by contact tracers, and see “MD COVID” on your phone, answer the call.

Q: What if I test **NEGATIVE**?

A: Likely, you do not have COVID-19. However, it is possible for a test to give a negative result in some people who have COVID-19. This is called a false negative.

If your test kit has a second test, use the second test in your kit to test again in least 24 hours, and no longer than 48 hours, after the first test.

Q: How can I report my test results?

A: Choose one of these ways to report your results:

- (1) Call the Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) COVID Call Center to report your results: 443-984-8650.
- (2) Report your results to the Maryland Department of Health at this website: covidlink.maryland.gov/selfreport
- (3) For Abbott BinaxNOW test kits, download the free NAVICA App and follow instructions for reporting results through the app. More information is available at www.mynavica.abbott.

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Q: When should I seek medical care?

- Call your healthcare provider as soon as you test positive for COVID-19 so that your healthcare provider may decide if you need additional tests and treatment.
- Monitor your symptoms.
- Seek immediate medical attention for emergency warning signs of COVID-19, which include but are not limited to: trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake to stay awake, pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds.

Q: What outpatient treatments are available and how can I access them?

A: Talk to your healthcare provider. They will determine if you are eligible for treatment. Currently the two kinds of treatment are the following:

- **Oral medications** - pill regimens started as soon as possible after symptoms start. Your healthcare provider writes a prescription for this. Please call your healthcare provider for further information on this treatment option.
- **Monoclonal antibody (mAb) treatments** - one-time injections or infusions, given as soon as possible after symptoms start. You may be eligible for mAb treatment if you are at high risk of becoming very sick.

If you do not have a healthcare provider or would like to self-refer for mAb treatment, you have these options:

- **Baltimore Convention Center Field Hospital (BCCFH) COVID Infusion Center: 410-649-6122** (Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm). For more information, visit this webpage: umms.org/COVIDInfusionCenter.
- They do not yet provide home infusions, but can help you with transportation to and from the appointment.
- **COVID Treatment Initiative/MDmAbs: 844-MABS-NOW (844-622-7669)**
- They offer home infusions in multiple counties, including Baltimore City

For more information about how accessible these or other sites are, please contact the BCHD Call Center at (443) 984-8650.