



Frequently Asked Questions: Maryland Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP) and Other Drive-Through COVID-19 Testing Sites

Updated May 28, 2020

The Maryland Department of Health, in conjunction with the Maryland Department of Transportation, Maryland State Police, Maryland National Guard, county health departments, and private partners, has converted select Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP) stations and other facilities into drive-through COVID-19 testing sites for Marylanders in various locations across the state.

Drive-through testing sites are for sample collection only. Testing will be provided to individuals regardless of their ability to pay, type of health insurance, or participation in any particular provider network.

Test site hours are subject to change based on demand and other conditions. Patients must have proof of identification (photo identification/driver's license, United States passport, or Social Security card) to receive testing at a drive-through testing site.

Scheduling

Contact information for many of the COVID-19 test sites in Maryland can be found at <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/symptoms-testing>. Patients are encouraged to contact the site where they plan to be tested to learn about that site's appointment procedures and other scheduling requirements.

If you plan to test at a site listing "CRISP" as the point of contact (this includes many VEIP sites), contact your health care provider first. After your health care provider submits your test order to the CRISP system, you will receive an email or text with an order confirmation code and instructions to schedule your appointment. After you schedule your appointment, you will receive a second email or text message confirming the appointment.

The Test

What is the test?

The test requires a clinician to insert a single swab (q-tip) into a person's nostrils. Most individuals experience minor discomfort at most.

Will I be required to exit my car when I arrive at the drive-through testing site?

No. All visitors will remain in their vehicles upon arrival at the drive-through testing site. Windows should remain up until it is time to be tested. *In the event of inclement weather, please remain in your car and await further instructions from test-site personnel.*

What type of identification will be required on arrival at the drive-through testing site?

Proof of identification accepted: photo identification/driver's license, United States passport, or Social Security card.

Will children be required to provide identification upon arrival at the drive-through testing site?

No. Only patients 18 years and older will need to provide photo identification.

How long will I have to wait in line?

If you have an appointment, you are encouraged to arrive at the testing site 15 minutes ahead of their scheduled time. This will ensure efficient movement through each step of the process.

Test Results

How will I receive my results after I have been tested at a drive-through testing site?

Generally, the results will be available within two to five days, depending on laboratory testing demands and resources. If you are testing at one of the sites where a doctor's order is not required, you will be provided with instructions for retrieving your results using an online portal. If you are testing at a site that requires an appointment, the provider who ordered your test will receive your results.

What do I do while waiting for my results?

Stay at home and self-isolate. Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Limit contact with pets and animals; wear a face mask, if you have one, when you are around others; clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. Monitor your symptoms. If your symptoms get worse, please call your health care provider's office. If you are having a medical emergency, such as difficulty breathing, call 911. Tell the 911 operator that you were tested for COVID-19 and are waiting for results.

What do I do if my test results are positive for COVID-19?

If you test positive, you should self-isolate at home for seven days after your symptoms started or three days after your last fever, whichever is longer, and if your symptoms are improved. Continue to practice good hygiene, including frequent and thorough hand washing, disinfecting “high-touch” surfaces and frequently washing clothing and bedding. Limit contact with pets and animals. Practice social distancing within the home and wear a mask around family members or other people.

What should I do if I start to feel worse?

Call your health care provider immediately. If you do not have a health care provider, call your local health department. Do not go to an urgent care facility or emergency department without calling first. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911.

If I do have COVID-19, what happens?

The vast majority of people recover from this disease in one to two weeks. Most people will have mild to moderate symptoms and will be advised to recover at home and isolate themselves from others. These individuals should call a physician or health care practitioner if symptoms get worse.

How do I self-isolate at home while I recover?

Ideally, you should stay in a separate bedroom where you can recover without sharing immediate space with others. You will need to have access to necessary resources, food, and medications while you recover. Depending on the severity of your symptoms, you may need a caregiver available to provide support. Caregivers should practice good hygiene, including frequent and thorough handwashing, avoiding touching their face, and frequently disinfecting “high-touch” surfaces. Prohibit visitors who do not have an essential need to be in the home.

If I have COVID-19, will I need to go to a hospital?

Most people will have mild to moderate symptoms and will be advised to recover at home and isolate themselves from others. For some people, COVID-19 can lead to serious illness. If someone has a serious illness from COVID-19, they may be admitted to the hospital.

Will my positive COVID-19 test results be reported to public health entities?

Yes. Positive COVID-19 test results will be reported to the appropriate public health agency in accordance with applicable Maryland laws and regulations.

How will I know when I don't need to be quarantined any longer?

You should self-isolate at home for seven days after your symptoms started or three days after your last fever, whichever is longer, and if your symptoms are improved. Continue to practice good hygiene, including frequent and thorough hand washing, disinfecting “high-touch” surfaces and frequently washing clothing and bedding. Practice social distancing within the home if you live with family members or other people.

Do a lot of people get seriously ill or die from COVID-19?

From what is known about COVID-19 so far, most people who get infected will have mild to moderate symptoms and can recover at home. Some people, especially those who are older or have underlying medical conditions, may experience more serious symptoms and complications from the illness. People who experience shortness of breath or other worsening symptoms should contact their health care provider immediately or call 911.