

Back to School Kickoff 2022/2023

FAQs

MI Safe Schools Antigen Program

- What are the CLIA Waiver requirements for the MI Safe Schools Antigen Program?
 - Any site performing COVID-19 testing on-site and either administering or interpreting results or both is required to have an active CLIA Waiver to conduct COVID-19 testing.
 - Most schools are covered under a blanket MDE (Michigan Department of Education) CLIA Waiver.
 - Please email MDHHS-COVIDTestingSupport@michigan.gov if to find out if your school is covered under the blanket CLIA waiver.
 - If schools need to be added to the blanket MDE CLIA waiver, MDHHS will add the school and address to the existing waiver.
 - Schools are not required to have their own CLIA waiver unless they choose to.
- What do I do if my site is not covered under the blanket CLIA waiver?
 - For the MDHHS testing program, complete all sections of the [CMS 116 CLIA Application](#). Completed application can be submitted to LARA-BCHS-DHHS-COW-TESTINGAPPLICATION@michigan.gov.
- Will daycare/early childhood programs be supported by the MI Safe Schools Antigen Program?
 - COVID-19 testing support for day care and early childhood programs is being considered. MDHHS will communicate changes if support for day care and early childhood programs will be implemented.
- What do we do with expired COVID-19 Point of Care test kits?
 - Schools must report expired test kits on the [School DISTRICT Antigen COVID Test Ordering Form](#).
 - Schools do not have to order tests to report expired kits through the form. If tests are not needed to replace expired kits, the order quantity should be zero.
 - Schools are asked to only report tests that have expired since the last order, ensuring that expired test kits are only reported once.
 - Unused expired test kits can be discarded as regular waste.

MI Backpack Home Test Program

- Even though the backpack tests say, “keep out of the reach of children”, can we still send them home in backpacks?
 - Distribution of test kits is left solely up to schools. Parent notification is recommended before test kits are sent home.
- What are the reporting requirements for at-home test kits?
 - Reporting is not required for at-home test kits.

Multiplex Testing Program

- Do all schools qualify to participate in the Multiplex Testing Program?
 - In order to qualify to participate in the Multiplex Testing Program schools must have a school-based nurse and school-based nurse center in the school building.
- How does an interest school sign up for the Multiplex Testing Program?
 - Schools interested in becoming a Multiplex partner should email MDHHS-COVIDTestingSupport@michigan.gov for next steps.
- How often should Multiplex tests be used?
 - Multiplex Testing should only be used if a student or staff is showing physical symptoms of COVID-19 or Flu. This test should not replace routine Antigen testing.
- Does a school need a CLIA waiver to participate in the Multiplex Testing Program?
 - Yes. A school, school district, county or state needs a CLIA certificate to perform on-site COVID-19 testing. This certificate shows that a school meets CLIA quality and safety requirements to follow test manufacturers’ instructions and provide accurate results.

Health Resource Advocate (HRA)

- Some health depts have HRAs with their main purpose being testing in schools. How do the HRAs fit into your vendor plan?
 - At this time, MDHHS is gauging interest in the vendor supported program. There is no definitive plan, however, additional details will be forthcoming.
- When is the HRA workplan due and is there a template?
 - The initial workplan is due August 31, 2022. The workplan should include any activities the HRA(s) plan to carry out, active testing plan, and anticipated budget expenditures.
- HRA qualifications
 - Clinical HRAs: must hold an associate degree in Nursing (preferably working towards a bachelor’s degree in Nursing) or bachelor’s degree in Nursing and two years of professional experience. A master’s degree in Nursing may be

- substituted for experience. Must be licensed to practice in the state of Michigan.
- Non-clinical HRAs: must hold a bachelor's degree in one of the following: Public Health, Health Education, Community Health, Social Work, or a related field, plus two years of professional experience. Master's degree may be substituted for professional experience requirement.
 - LPNs are subject to be accepted based on RN supervision and experience. Note: social workers must be licensed to practice in the state of Michigan.
- Can an HRA pass medication to students, provide first aid services, create health-care plans, and provide other nursing services?
 - HRAs cannot pass medications to students. Clinical HRAs can provide first aid and other medical care/services according to physician prescribed treatment orders to faculty and staff (and to students with parental consent).
- What is the difference between clinical HRAs and non-clinical HRAs?
 - The main difference is scope of practice. Clinical HRAs can provide the same duties as non-clinical HRAs, in addition to some clinical duties such as medical care and first aid.

Project ACT

- All households are eligible to receive free tests via MDHHS' partner program, [Project Act](#) and can reorder every month (i.e., if ordered in July they can reorder in August).
- For those individuals that do not have access to a computer or smartphone:
 - Please contact Michigan 2-1-1 and their personnel will assist with placing the order.
- All test kits have a minimum expiration date of January 2023. Please see the following for further information:
 - iHealth Test Kit Expiration Extension:
 - As of July 8, 2022, the FDA extended the shelf-life of iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Tests to 12 months. Please [click here](#) for details or to look up new expiration dates by lot numbers.