

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Frequently Asked Questions for the eMed BinaxNOW at-home tests, September 1, 2021

1. Can the eMed at-home BinaxNOW tests be used for Test and Stay?

EMed tests may be utilized **only** if an individual who is currently in the Test and Stay protocol is participating in an athletic or extracurricular activity on a weekend or non-school day. In this case, the individual should receive one eMed test kit to take home on the last day of school prior to the activity, and take the test on the same day as, but prior to arriving at, the event. If the test is negative the individual should show the negative result to school staff (coaches, etc) at the event, and is cleared to participate. The individual should remain masked. If the test is positive, the individual should be treated as a positive case.

2. How do schools or districts receive eMed BinaxNOW tests? How many eMed BinaxNOW tests can a school or district receive?

Schools/districts should request eMed BinaxNOW kits through CIC Health. Unlike last year, schools/districts will not fill out the distribution request on DESE's website to request eMed BinaxNOW testing kits. Schools will receive an electronic form in their welcome email from CIC Health, through which they may request eMed BinaxNOW tests. If needed, the CIC Health program coordinator may complete the distribution request form on behalf of the school/district. The number of kits that a school may receive will be determined by DPH. A school may request additional eMed BinaxNOW test kits through their program coordinator at CIC Health.

3. Who is the proctor for the eMed At-home test?

The eMed Certified Guide, who receives a rigorous training and testing certification in the testing process, the terminology, testing administration, and the flow of the Abbott BinaxNOW Covid-19 Ag Home Test.

4. How soon after the eMed At-home test are results available?

Results are available approximately 15 minutes after completion of the test.

5. How do parents submit consent for the eMed At-Home test? Do schools have to manage the consent process?

Parents submit consent for the eMed At-home test directly within the application that accompanies the test. Before beginning the test taking process, the individual or their guardian must provide consent. Unlike with pooled testing and symptomatic testing, schools do not need to manage the consent process.

6. How do schools obtain a valid record indicating that an individual's test was negative?

After completing the test, eMed provides a certificate indicating the test result (positive, negative, invalid) via email to the test taker's email address. DESE recommends that schools require individuals to show the certificate demonstrating the test result prior to participating in an activity on a non-school day.

7. How are results from the eMed At-home tests reported to DPH?

After the test taker completes their test with the online proctor, eMed will report the results to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

8. When will the eMed At-home tests expire?

On April 6, 2021, the FDA granted a 12-month shelf life to the BinaxNOW COVID-19 Home Test, which includes the eMed At-home test. This means the expiration date printed on test kits has been extended an additional three (3) months. For example, a test kit with an expiration date of 2021-09-27 (Sept. 27, 2021) will now expire 2021-12-27 (Dec. 27, 2021).