

SHIELD COVID Testing

Plainfield School District 202 is partnering with the University of Illinois to test students, teachers, and staff members for COVID-19 infection using the University of Illinois' rapid rtPCR test ("SHIELD Test").

This non-invasive COVID-19 test is VOLUNTARY AND FREE to all District 202 students and staff and is at no cost to the district.

If you consent, your child will receive a free SHIELD diagnostic test for the COVID-19 virus conducted by collecting saliva. Med-Call, a third-party medical agency, will facilitate and administer SHIELD testing. Testing will be conducted at least once a week per current Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations as adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).

Why SHIELD testing? IDPH partnered with SHIELD Illinois to provide weekly testing to participating schools utilizing the SHIELD Illinois saliva-based RT-PCR testing. Screening tests for SARS-CoV-2 are intended to identify infected persons who are asymptomatic and without known or suspected exposure to SARS-CoV-2. Screening tests are performed to identify persons who may be contagious to prevent further transmission. Screening tests can be an effective mitigation strategy, especially in areas with high-to-moderate community transmission.

Test Results and Confidentiality

Families who consent to SHIELD testing will receive access to your child's test results online (more information coming soon.) District 202 will also receive results of your child's test and may/will notify you separately of any positive result. All results are confidential and protected under HIPAA and FERPA.

The IDPH, and Will or Kendall County Health Department will also receive your child's test results, consistent with IDPH guidance and the Illinois Control of Communicable Disease Code.

Consent for Testing

Parents/Guardians must complete the [SHIELD COVID Testing Consent Form](#) for each child they would like to participate in the weekly testing. Parents/Guardians must choose – or "Opt In" -- to give consent for their child(ren) to be tested.

District 202 will start with SHIELD screening testing only. Once screening testing is running smoothly, we will investigate other testing options including a "Test to Stay" program and symptomatic testing. "Test to Stay" allows individuals in close contact to participate in SHIELD testing on days 1, 3, 5, 7. If test results are negative, the individual is not required to quarantine. The additional testing options will be available ONLY to students who are signed up for the weekly screening testing.

For additional information visit the district [SHIELD website](#) or review the attached FAQ.

Timeline for Testing:

- Consent forms will be available online starting Sept. 6th until September 13th.
- Current target start date for testing is the week of September 27th or later.
- Additional students and staff may consent for the program after the initial roll out, however, any new enrollees will take at least 1 week to be added to the program.