

Dear Adult Care Facility Administrator,

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DOHMH) SARS-CoV-2 Testing Program is partnering with Affiliated Physicians to provide on-site Nucleic Acid Amplification (PCR) COVID-19 Testing Program, free of charge, to your residents and staff.

**How does the program work?**

A team of registered nurses from Affiliated Physicians will come on-site to a centralized location within your building, to collect anterior nares swabs from all residents and staff who wish to participate in testing.

The specimens will be sent to Pathline Labs for diagnostic processing and an overview of results will be provided to you within 24-48 hours of the testing event via a secure portal along with lab reports for each person who was tested.

If anyone is diagnosed as positive within the facility, an Investigator from the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will be contact you to lend support around isolation, quarantine, and infection control protocols.

**When is testing for respiratory viruses indicated?**

Facility-wide testing (including all personnel and residents, irrespective of vaccination status) should be performed when a single new case of COVID-19 is identified in a staff member or resident within the facility. Serial testing should follow weekly until no new cases of COVID-19 are diagnosed within the facility for 14 days.

Routine screening is recommended on a monthly basis

As the symptoms for COVID-19 and flu can be similar, the [CDC recommends](#) testing residents who are symptomatic for both viruses. This program supports testing for both SARS-CoV-2 and influenza A and B through Influenza SARS-CoV-2 (Flu SC2) Multiplex Assay. Tests for both viruses are run on the same swab.

**Who is eligible to participate in testing?**

All staff and residents regardless of vaccination status.

**What is the cost?**

Testing is free of charge to residents/staff and the facility. DOHMH covers all costs associated with specimen collection and lab processing; staff and resident's insurance is not billed.

**How does my facility enroll in the Program?**

Email [covidtestingcsiru@health.nyc.gov](mailto:covidtestingcsiru@health.nyc.gov) an indication of interest and a Testing Coordinator will be in touch.

We look forward to working with you,  
NYC DOHMH Congregate Settings Investigation and Response Unit (CSIRU)