Dear Testing Partner,

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) wants to recognize the dedication of our testing partners that have worked so hard to keep their communities safer through our COVID-19 testing programs. With your help, we have been able to successfully distribute 107 million at-home tests over the past 3 years!

Effective February 29, 2024, the at-home testing program will be coming to an end*. Eligible organizations will be able to order at-home tests up until this date using the following ordering timeframe:

Ordering Timeframe	Order Request	Test Expiration Dates
Current- 12/20/23	2-month supply of tests	January 31, 2024
12/29/23 - 1/18/24	2-month supply of tests	February 29, 2024
1/19/24-2/29/24	6-week supply of tests	March 31, 2024

* While supplies last. If testing resources are exhausted sooner, tests will no longer be available.

Organizations eligible to request at-home tests include:
- Local Health Jurisdictions
- Community Based Organizations- including shelters and food banks.
- Skilled Nursing/Long Term Care Facilities
- K-12 Schools
- Licensed Early Childhood Education (ECE)
- Health Care Centers
- Pharmacies
- Local Government Offices- including city and county offices.
- Libraries
- If you are unsure if your organization qualifies for tests, please email OTCTesting@cdph.ca.gov

Use this link to place an order: **https://labsupport.powerappsportals.us/ordercovidotc/**

Tests should be prioritized for priority populations (those are uninsured, underinsured, or have poor access to medical care or who are high risk for severe disease).

Other ways to obtain COVID-19 Tests

Insured? You may be able to obtain tests from your insurance (details vary, contact your plan). Read more about how people with insurance can get free tests here: *https://covid19.ca.gov/get-tested/*

Beginning November 20, every U.S. household can again place another order to receive <mark>four more</mark> free COVID-19 rapid tests delivered directly to their home: https://www.covid.gov/tests

Home Test to Treat is a federal program that offers free tests and free treatment (if eligible) for COVID-19 at home 24/7. No insurance or appointments needed!

When to Test:

CDPH encourages that people test if they feel sick, after exposure, or before visiting high-risk people.

COVID-19 Testing – What You Need to Know (PDF) English, Spanish, Arabic, Armenian, Chinese Simplified, Chinese Traditional, Hmong, Khmer, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Tagalog, Thai and Vietnamese.

BEFORE you order, please check the following details:
Tests must be stored INDOORS, in a temperature-controlled space [less than 86 degrees] as soon as they are delivered.

- Identify how your facility can accept delivery.
- Identify the temperature-controlled space that you can use for storage.

   Please do not order more tests than you can safely store.

- iHealth includes180 tests per case and 15,120 tests per pallet.
- Orasure includes 48 tests per case and 1,440 tests per pallet.
- A case size is 12" L x 13" W x 11" H and a pallet size is 4 ft x 4 ft x 6 ft.

* Test brands are shipped based on availability. We cannot accept requests for specific test brands.

Be advised that most at-home/OTC test brands have had formal extensions by the FDA and are valid for many months after the dates printed on the boxes.

CDPH recommends replacing tests that are older than the *extended* expiration dates (found on the FDA website), but if newer tests are not easily available, you may use an expired test as long as the internal control remains valid.

Los Angeles County organizations can access at-home testing resources through LA County Department of Public Health. *For more information, please visit LA County At-Home Testing Resources.*

POSITIVE TEST-
Reach out to your medical provider, urgent care center, pharmacy, or the CDPH Call Center at 833-422-4255 and ask about prescription COVID-19 medications. Don't wait until symptoms get worse, the medications must be started within the first 5 days of symptoms to be effective.

COVID-19 medications are widely available and effective for treating COVID-19 to prevent serious illness. They are recommended for most adults, including those older than 50 years, and some teens. While government-purchased supplies last, the medications remain available for free, whether or not you have insurance or citizenship status. Ask your pharmacy if they have free supply available.

If you have difficulties accessing COVID-19 medication, you can make a free phone or video appointment with a health care provider through California's COVID-19 telehealth service by visiting sesamecare.com/covid19 or calling 1-855-780-3855. This program will run to the end of February 2024. Visit YouCanBeatIt.Org for information on additional telehealth options that are available beyond February 2024.

NEGATIVE TEST-
If a person with symptoms tests negative for COVID-19 with an antigen test, what follow up testing should be done?

If a person has **COVID-19 symptoms** and tests negative on an antigen test, they should test again at least a day later (note that antigen tests in infected people may not be positive right away even if symptoms are present).
If a person has a negative result on the second test and is still concerned that they could have COVID-19, they may consider antigen testing again at least another day later after the second test (for a total of 3 tests) OR getting a laboratory-based molecular test (such as NAAT/PCR). The person is also highly recommended to call their healthcare provider who may consider testing for other viral infections or illnesses.

If you have any questions, please send an email to: OTCtesting@cdph.ca.gov