

Calallen ISD

COVID Rapid Testing Overview



In Calallen, we are committed to doing all we can to keep staff and students healthy and safe. With this goal in mind, we are pleased to share that we will be taking part in a statewide program offering rapid tests for use in schools. This program will allow Calallen ISD to test both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals—including staff and students-- and reduce the risk to our school community.

What COVID-19 tests are used in this program?

This program uses [BinaxNOW tests](#), which provide results in 15 minutes and are administered using a nasal swab in the front area of the nostril. These tests have been shown to be highly accurate, with accuracy rates of 97-98% for symptomatic individuals.

Who will be tested and when?

Calallen ISD will be using the BinaxNOW tests for three primary purposes:

- Voluntary testing of symptomatic students or staff members;
- Voluntary testing of asymptomatic or identified close contact students or staff members; or
- Voluntary screening of students and/or staff for specified purposes (i.e. athletic teams or extracurricular organizations).

In Calallen ISD, we will be offering these tests to identified students and staff members in alignment with the Calallen ISD COVID Rapid Testing Plan available on the [Calallen ISD website](#). These tests are optional, but we encourage all identified students and staff members to participate for the health and safety of the district. This is voluntary testing and will be performed as long as testing kits are available.

How will the information from the tests be used?

In the case of symptomatic students, your child's school will call you to let you know that your student is experiencing symptoms. If permission is granted, Calallen ISD will administer a BinaxNOW test to the child. The test administrator will also call to share the results after the test has been administered. Additionally, the student's parent or guardian will also receive a confirmation email within 24 hours.

The results will also be shared within the school/district administration, and with the local health department. The sharing of results will allow for public health reporting, contact tracing, and to determine the stay-at-home period for individuals who test positive. Additionally, the total number of positive tests per school will also be shared with the Texas Department of State Health Services as is required by law.

What happens next?

Tests will be made available to all students or staff members who are demonstrating symptoms of COVID, and to those identified asymptomatic or close contacts. For screening purposes, parental permission will be required.