

Louisiana Believes

Louisiana Department of Health Updates:
COVID & K-12
October 29, 2020

ATTENTION: Instructions for participants

During this meeting, participants may submit questions **via the online chat feature** throughout the presentation. Submitting questions via the chat allows LDOE the opportunity to not only answer your question while on the call but to also add your question and the answer to our publicly disseminated FAQ document(s).

****Please mute and turn your video off****

Agenda

1. Connectivity Dashboard (LDOE)
2. Clinical Utility of Antigen Tests (LDH)
3. BinaxNOW Rapid Test availability (LDH)
4. Quarantine/Contact Tracing Updates (LDH)
5. Superintendent Reporting Tool (LDH)
6. Next Steps (LDOE)

Learning Environment and Connectivity Tool Data Update

The [Learning Environment and Connectivity Tool](#) provides a tool to:

- easily track student learning environments and connectivity data, and
- identify where additional student connectivity is needed to focus advocacy efforts.
- School systems should routinely submit data.
- School systems received an email on September 14 with the subject “*URGENT: Learning Environment and Connectivity Tool*” that contains the system specific access code and the following directions for updating data:
 1. Access the survey [here](#)
 2. Enter your system’s access code
 3. Provide learning environment and connectivity information
 4. Review information for accuracy

COVID-19 Prevention: Keep it up!

- Masks – they work!
- Hand hygiene
- 6 feet of social distance
- Stay home if you are sick
- Stay away from sick people

Clinical Utility of Antigen Tests

- [COVID 19 Viral Testing Guidance](#)
- **Individuals with signs and symptoms of COVID-19**
 - If positive: person should be considered positive and isolate for 10 days
 - If negative: should have a PCR and stay isolated until results
- **Close contacts of a person known to have COVID-19**
 - If positive: person should be considered positive and isolate for 10 days
 - If negative: person should stay quarantined and watch for s/s for 14 days
- **Screening**
 - LDH does not recommend antigen testing of asymptomatic individuals with no known contact to a COVID-19 case

Abbott BinaxNOW Rapid Testing

- Federal resource provided at no charge
- Great when you need to know quickly if someone might be positive
- **Rapid results, inexpensive**, no electronic instruments needed
 - But not as sensitive or specific as PCR (molecular test)
- Not specifically recommended for asymptomatic cases
- Comes with free, optional NAVICA app to records result + date of test for patient
 - **Training:** Available through our Abbott reps
 - **Reporting:** Electronic reporting of all test results required (more info thru ELR@LA.gov)
 - **CLIA:** FDA requires facility administering the test have CLIA certificate of waiver



Quarantine/Contact Tracing Updates

- Close Contact definition update:
 - The CDC clarified the definition of close contact to be someone who was within 6 ft of an infected person for a *cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hr period*.
 - Example: three 5-minute exposures over a 24 hour period for a total of 15 minutes
- Contact Tracing/Quarantine update:
 - [LDH guidance](#) states that quarantine for close contacts of suspect cases may be delayed 48 hours after the suspect case meets clinical criteria to allow for molecular/PCR test results or an alternative more likely diagnosis to be made by a physician.
 - LDH has provided a [presentation](#) and [recorded webinar](#) going into the details of contact tracing for schools on their website.

Superintendent Reporting Dashboard

The K-12 COVID-19 report makes use of school-reported COVID-19 case counts in the COVID-19 Early Warning System. These counts are grouped and categorized by students, staff, faculty, volunteers, and itinerant employees (those working at multiple locations) for each school. Only case reports in which the individual is indicated to have received a positive viral COVID-19 test result are included. School superintendents can access the report and see the counts, per week, for each category in each school in their district. Counts between one and four are described as '1 – 4' to reduce the risk of identifying any individuals. These reports will be updated weekly.

To access LDH provided school system COVID-19 reports, Superintendents can log in using their LDOE assigned "E" ID and password. This is the same ID superintendents use to access LDOE's LEADS portal and data reporting websites.

Next Steps

1. A survey will be provided for school systems to request BINAX test kits.

Information that will be requested in the survey:

- a) Name of the delivery location
- b) Point of contact (Need name, email, phone #)
- c) Delivery address
- d) CLIA Waived Certificate # OR the community provider who will be testing for you so we can obtain all the same information on them
- e) # of BINAX tests requested (recommend estimating # based on 20% of your census)

2. DOE will forward the information to LDH

3. LDH will provide kits to you or your provider with further technical instructions

For more information email LDOECOVID19support@la.gov