

# COVID-19 TEST TO STAY (TTS) GUIDELINES

## FOR ASYMPTOMATIC UNVACCINATED STUDENTS AND STAFF



Yonkers Public Schools has determined that the NYSDOH and WCDOH **"TEST TO STAY" (TTS) Guideline<sup>1</sup>** supports the District's goal for **safe continuous in-school instruction for students and staff**. TTS is a strategy that allows asymptomatic unvaccinated students and staff who were in close contact to a COVID-19 positive person to avoid school exclusion by testing negative with a home COVID-19 rapid antigen test, a minimum of three (3) times during a seven-day period. Per the NYSDOH, these individuals cannot participate in extracurricular activities (sports, band, clubs, etc.) and, aside from school attendance for instruction and bus travel, must adhere to a 10-day quarantine at home.

### TEST TO STAY (TTS)

*The procedures that follow are subject to change at any time.*

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR TTS?

- Student or staff of the Yonkers Public Schools, who are not vaccinated and asymptomatic, identified as a close direct contact with COVID-19 positive persons in school.

#### WHAT ARE THE DISTRICT'S TTS PROCEDURES?

- Rapid antigen tests are approved and will be used for the YPS program and available to students and staff from YPS. Each exposed individual will receive two (2) boxes that contain two (2) test kits. The home COVID-19 rapid antigen tests may be picked up at the school or the Board of Education.
- Daily tests are no longer required.
- The exposed person must be tested a **minimum of four (4) times** in the morning prior to coming to school during the seven-day period following this schedule:

**FIRST TEST**  
administered on  
**day 1** of quarantine

**SECOND TEST**  
administered on  
**day 2 or day 3**  
of quarantine

**THIRD TEST**  
administered on  
**day 5 or day 6**  
of quarantine

**FOURTH TEST**  
administered on  
**day 7** of quarantine

If the fourth test falls on a weekend/holiday, test first day back to school.

#### FOR STUDENTS:

If the test result is **NEGATIVE**, take a picture of the results and email it to the principal and school nurse.

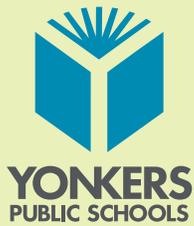
For high school students (9-12) also email your picture to the grade level administrator.

#### FOR STAFF:

If the test result is **NEGATIVE**, take a picture of the results and provide it to the principal and school nurse when you arrive at work.

If the person is exhibiting symptoms at any time during TTS or receives a **POSITIVE** result, the person must quarantine for a **minimum of five full days**.

<sup>1</sup> The New York State Department of Health on December 23, 2021 Test to Stay (TTS) Update Revised Updated Testing and Quarantine Supplemental Information. The update provided Local Health Departments (LHDs) clarification on new information regarding COVID-19 testing and quarantine.



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## WHAT ARE THE DISTRICT'S TTS PROCEDURES?

No District COVID-19 test is required during weekends/holidays when the seven-day TTS period is still active. However, students and staff must do a final test after the weekend/holiday even if this exceeds day 7. For example, if day 7 of the quarantine falls on a weekend, the student or staff must be tested on Monday before coming in person to school in order to complete four (4) tests.

## CAN I SEE MY REGULAR MEDICAL PROVIDER TO PARTICIPATE IN TTS?

Yes, you can choose to see your private medical provider for COVID-19 testing in the morning prior to coming to school. Following the schedule noted in the TTS Procedures, prior to going to school, eligible students or staff may choose to see their medical provider for an approved rapid COVID-19 test and present the negative test results upon entering their school to the school nurse.

## CAN I USE A HOME-BASED TEST FOR ONE OR ALL OF THE DAYS?

Yes, a home-based test can be used with a picture, name and date on the test submitted to the school.

## WHO CAN NOT PARTICIPATE IN TTS?

- Any individual developing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Any individual required to quarantine.

## WHAT IF I MISS A COVID-19 TESTING DAY?

Any missed day of the schedule of COVID-19 testing will **exclude the student or staff** from attending school on that day.

## IF I AM NEGATIVE DOES THIS MEAN I AM NOT QUARANTINED?

No, the negative test only provides clearance for the person to attend in classroom activities and taking the bus to and from school, all other quarantine parameters must be followed, e.g., no sports, extracurricular activities, etc. Outside the school setting, quarantine recommendations will apply.

**These guidelines are subject to change pursuant to updates  
provided by the CDC, NYSDOH and WCDOH.**