

Dear EISD Staff/Parents/Guardians:

In Evant ISD, 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 COVID-19 Rapid Tests for use in schools. **This program is voluntary for staff and enrolled EISD students only.** This program will allow Evant ISD to test staff and students, and reduce the risk to our school community. If you have additional questions, you can contact the EISD administration.

What is the cost of testing?

Testing is free. There is not a one-to-one test guarantee for staff/students. **As long as tests are available and staff/students meet criteria to be tested,** the test administrator (ex: nurse aide) will communicate that information with the staff member/parent/guardian, and proceed with plan protocols.

What COVID-19 tests are used in this program?

This program uses BinaxNOW tests, which provide results in 15 minutes or less and are administered using a nasal swab in the front area of the nostril. **This is not an invasive nasal swab.** These tests have been shown to be highly accurate, with accuracy rates of 97-98% for symptomatic individuals.

Who will be tested and when?

You can view the Evant ISD Plan for COVID-19 Rapid Testing under district links on our website at www.evantisd.org.

Evant ISD will test any staff member/student (with parent/guardian permission) who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19. Tests are voluntary. Test availability will be determined by the test administrator. Again, please refer to the Evant ISD Plan for COVID-19 Rapid Testing for more information.

How will the information from the tests be used?

The results will also be shared with applicable school community members and the local health department to allow for public health reporting 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?

Our goal is to have tests available to staff and students (*again voluntary*) who are showing symptoms of COVID-19; ***tests are subject to priority and availability; certain criteria must be met.*** If an EISD staff member or student (parent permission under 18 required) is experiencing symptoms and would like to be tested, please follow the protocols in the Evant ISD Plan for COVID-19 Rapid Testing.

If you have any questions please contact the EISD administration.

Sincerely,
Dr. Brenda Martinez, Superintendent