

## COVID-19 testing for UCI Health Employees Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Q: When do UCI Health employees qualify for Occupational Health COVID-19 testing?

A: UCI Health employees qualify for COVID-19 testing via Occupational Health:

- When you have COVID-19 symptoms regardless of vaccination status
- When you do not have symptoms, but have a documented COVID-19 exposure while at work **and** Occupational Health facilitates approved testing
- When you are recommended to be tested by Occupational Health for other reasons (such as mandates for nursing homes)
- You are unvaccinated and are required to have twice weekly testing (starts 8/26/21)

### Q: When do UCI Health employees not qualify for Occupational Health COVID-19 testing?

A: UCI Health will NOT provide HCP COVID-19 testing for reasons unrelated to your UCI work activities  
Examples include

- Pre-procedural COVID-19 testing
- Pre/Post Travel/School/Sports/Other work location requirements
- Possible community exposures, etc.
- Testing will also not be conducted for 90 days after a COVID-19 positive diagnosis.

### Q: When do UCI students qualify for Occupational Health COVID-19 testing?

A: UCI allied health students (Medical/Nursing) may qualify for COVID-19 testing at Occupational Health:

- When you have COVID-19 symptoms regardless of vaccination **and** a documented COVID-19 Exposure on the UCI Premises **and** Occupational Health facilitates approved testing
- If students do not meet this criteria, they are recommended to follow up with Student Health. Please call 949-824-5301. For after hours Student Health services, please review <https://shc.uci.edu/emergency-medical-and-mental-health-services-and-after-hours-care>

### Q: What is considered an occupational exposure to an individual with COVID-19?

A: An occupational exposure occurs when a healthcare provider (HCP) has interacted with a COVID+ individual greater than 15 minutes, less than 6 feet apart without the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) **AND**

- Masked individual coughs/sneezes within 3-6 feet and you are NOT masked,
- Unmasked individual coughs/sneezes within 3-6 feet and you are NOT wearing mask/eye protection,
- You touch an individual's respiratory secretions and then touch your eyes, nose or mouth before you clean your hands

## **Q: I was exposed to a confirmed COVID-19 individual – should I get tested?**

A: Testing is appropriate **IF** you have symptoms.

- Exposed asymptomatic HCP should not be tested.  
(There are a few exceptions, Occupational Health will facilitate testing for those who qualify)
- It may take up to 14 days before symptoms start after an exposure. Testing negative without symptoms before 14 days does not mean that you will not develop symptoms within the remaining days. Monitoring for symptoms is the best course of action.
- All exposed HCP should
  - Perform self-monitoring for 14 days from the day of their last exposure  
See “Monitoring Yourself for Infection Symptoms” on the COVID-19 SharePoint.
  - Contact their supervisor and Occupational Health if any symptoms develop.  
Occupational Health will evaluate you over the phone and determine when and how to perform testing, as well as when you can return to work.

## **Q: Where are the UCI Health testing sites and hours of availability?**

### **For symptomatic employees:**

- DH Kiosk: STAT symptomatic testing (results in about 4 hours) needed for URGENT work clearance, open 24/7
- DH Kiosk: NON-STAT symptomatic (Next day results), open 24/7
- Manchester drive-thru: Next day results, open 8AM-5PM daily  
(requires Epic appointment facilitated by Occ Health)
- Gottschalk Medical Plaza Kiosk: Next day results, open 8AM-5PM Monday-Friday (closed holidays)

### **For asymptomatic employees:**

Required twice weekly testing for unvaccinated HCP will start 8/23/21

Weekly email invitations will contain a link to self-scheduling an appointment

- Shanbrom Hall Building 55 in Orange: open 8AM-4PM Monday-Friday
- Gottschalk Medical Plaza Kiosk: open 8AM-12pm, 1PM-5PM Monday-Friday

## **Q: Which symptomatic UCI Health testing site should I choose?**

A:

- If you are symptomatic and NOT scheduled for a shift within the next 24-48 hours or before Occupational Health will reopen (such as over a holiday), select one of the following with results available the next day
  - DH Kiosk NON-STAT
  - Manchester drive-thru
  - Gottschalk Medical Plaza Kiosk
- If you are symptomatic **and** scheduled for a shift within the next 24-48 hours or before Occupational Health will reopen (such as over a holiday), select
  - DH Kiosk STAT testing

- Note that if you voluntarily choose to delay testing when you are symptomatic with scheduled shifts, this may negatively impact how your leave is processed.

**Q: What type of COVID-19 testing is done at the UCI Health testing sites?**

A: A COVID-19 RT PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test is performed which is highly accurate at detecting COVID-19. Despite the STAT name for DH Kiosk testing, it is not an COVID-19 antigen test.

**Q: If I had UCI Health COVID-19 testing, how do I access my result?**

A:

- If you had your COVID-19 test at the DH Kiosk, Shanbrom Hall Building 55, or Gottschalk Medical Plaza kiosk, you will need to check your UCI E-mail in order to obtain a link to view your results.
- If you had your COVID-19 test at the Manchester Tent, results will be available in Mychart via Epic. To register for Mychart, open up <http://www.ucihealth.org/mychart>.
  - If you do not have an Activation Code: Request to sign up by calling MyChart Customer Support at 1-833-469-2478 during business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

**Q: What are COVID-19 symptoms of concern that will make me eligible for testing?**

A: COVID-19 symptoms include fever >99° F, chills, new cough, shortness of breath, muscle aches, unexpected fatigue, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, headache, diarrhea, vomiting/nausea, and other cold symptoms. As a reminder, if you develop COVID-19 symptoms, you are not allowed on the premises until cleared by Occupational Health

**Q: I am fully COVID-19 vaccinated, and symptomatic with COVID-19 like symptoms, do I still need to be tested?**

A: Yes, all employees with COVID-19 like symptoms are to be COVID-19 tested regardless of vaccination status.

**Q: Can I obtain COVID-19 testing outside of UCI Health?**

A: You may obtain COVID-19 testing outside of UCI Health at any time. However, for return-to-work purposes, results must be reported to UCI Occupational Health and may be subject to repeat testing depending on your situation. Here are resources for COVID-19 testing outside of UCI.

<https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing>

**Q: I have a negative COVID-19 test, when can I return to work?**

A: To return to work, you must have completed an UCI Occupational Health COVID-19 Intake Form. If your negative COVID-19 test was done at UCI Health, upon contacting Occupational Health, the COVID-19 Triage Team will evaluate your intake form and your results to determine your work status. If you have an outside lab COVID-19 test, it will need to be repeated at UCI Health prior to return to work.

**Q: I have a positive COVID-19 test, when can I return to work?**

A: To return to work, you must have completed an UCI Occupational Health COVID-19 Intake Form. If your positive COVID-19 test was done at UCI, upon contacting Occupational Health, the COVID-19 Triage Team will evaluate your symptoms log and your results to determine your work status. If you have an outside positive COVID-19 test PCR, make sure it shows the full name, test performed date and test resulted date and send that to the Occupational Health team. If you have an outside positive COVID-19 Antigen test, you will need a PCR test done at UCI Health.