



COVID-19

What to expect: Children's Minnesota Swab Center

Updated Oct. 2, 2020

As you prepare for a procedure at Children's Minnesota, your care team may ask that your child get a COVID-19 test. Here is some information to help you prepare for the COVID-19 test. With questions, please call our free COVID-19 Nurse Line: 952-99-COVID (952-99-26843).

Scheduling a COVID-19 test

If your child needs a COVID-19 test, Children's Minnesota will call you to schedule the test after your procedure is scheduled. An appointment is needed for a COVID-19 test. We recommend getting tested at a Children's Minnesota drive-up swab center to ensure we have your test results in time for your procedure. **A COVID-19 test is needed within 3 days of your procedure.**

We understand the Children's Minnesota swab center locations may not work for you. You can contact your primary care clinic or a MDH [testing location](#) to arrange. *If an order from a provider is requested by the testing facility, contact your child's primary care clinic.*

If you try to get a test at another facility but can't get one, please call Children's Minnesota at 952-99-26843. We will help you get a test in time for your procedure.

What to expect: Children's Minnesota swab centers

Locations



St. Paul swab center at the mobile clinic

233 Grand Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55102
Entrance to the parking lot is on Thompson Street.
Look for the mobile clinic bus in the parking lot. [View a map](#)

Hours: Monday through Friday: 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.



Children's Minnesota Minneapolis swab center

2545 Chicago Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Parking lot at Midtown Doctors Building [View a map](#)

Hours: Monday through Friday: 7:30 a.m.–4 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m.–noon



COVID-19



When you arrive

- Park in a numbered parking spot that has a “Swab Center” sign and call the phone number on the sign: Minneapolis: 612-813-7787; St. Paul: 651-220-7201.
- A health care provider will come to your car and provide instructions.
- Keep your child in their car seat, or on the seat with a seat belt on.
- To get the COVID-19 test sample, a long cotton swab will be put into your child's nose. This will likely be a little uncomfortable for your child. You can move to a different place in your vehicle to calm and comfort your child.

Social isolation

After the COVID-19 test, you and your family should socially isolate until the procedure to make sure your child is healthy for a safe procedure, and to help protect you and your family, and your community from illness. [Learn more.](#)

COVID-19 test results

The test results will take a few days to come back. You will be contacted with your test results. If you **do not** get tested at Children’s Minnesota, you must provide a copy of your test results on the day of the procedure, including a printed copy or results from a patient care portal.

Tips to prepare for the COVID-19 test

- Limit the number of people in the vehicle to the driver and the child getting the swab, if possible.
- Everyone in the car should stay seated and belted.
- Everyone over the age of two years should wear a mask in the car.
- Staff at the testing site will wear equipment to protect your family and themselves from illness. [Watch this video](#) to help your child understand what staff may be wearing.

Who pays for the COVID-19 test?

For questions about costs for a procedure or visit, contact your insurance company, or Children’s Minnesota at PatientCostEstimates@ChildrensMN.org or 952-992-5627.

- **No health insurance:** A government program pays for the COVID-19 test, but not office visits.
- **With health insurance:** The CARES Act requires that COVID-19 testing is covered by health insurance providers with no cost to the patient. This applies to most health insurance coverage in Minnesota. The CARES Act only applies to the COVID-19 test and not other office visits.
- Some insurance providers have agreed to cover the cost for in-network office visits associated with the COVID-19 test. **It is important to check with your health insurance provider to find out what costs may be covered.**

Reviewers: Crawford, Carruthers; Revised: 10/2/2020