Fall 2022 PCR Self-Test FAQ

What is a PCR Self-Test?

Instructions on how to administer the PCR test are located on PSU’s COVID-19 webpage. A PCR self-test, also known as an unobserved PCR test, works very similarly to observed PCR testing, with the exception that you complete your own nasal swab. Please pay close attention to the instructions and follow the directions for dropping off your sample in the identified collection containers across campus. DON’T FORGET TO ACTIVATE your sample before dropping it in the collection container.

Do I need to create a Color Account to Activate My Sample?

- Yes, a Color account is required to use Color’s self-administered COVID-19 testing.
- Visit home.color.com/create-account

To create an account, you will need:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Your PSU Email Address - you must use your letter/number email address (i.e., abc123@plymouth.edu) rather than firstname.lastname email address when making your account.
Password (1 uppercase, 1 lowercase and 1 number are required. It must be at least 8 letters long)

Where do I pick up my COVID-19 Test Kit?

- Both the PCR tests and BinaxNow (antigen/rapid) test kits are available for pick up in Speare 201 and Speare 203B (COVID-19 Coordinator’s Office) for faculty, staff as well as commuter and non-traditional students. Residential students can pick up their test kits at their Residence Halls or contact the Office of Residential Life for pick up questions.

When do I take my COVID-19 Test?

- All students and employees must take a PCR test between **Friday, August 26th and Monday August 29th, 2022.** All samples need to be dropped off by 7:00pm Monday evening (8/29/22).
  - All collection containers in Residence Halls will be accessible 24 hours a day during the dates and times outlined above.
  - All collection containers in other Campus Buildings will be accessible during regular business hours during the dates and times outlined above.
- All students and employees must take a PCR test again the week of September 11, 2022. More specific information regarding dates and times will be communicated within the coming weeks.

Once I take a test, where do I bring it?

You can drop your completed test kit to the collection container closest to you. Building access will be needed. DON’T FORGET TO ACTIVATE your sample BEFORE dropping it in the collection container (see below).

Listed below are the locations of the test kit drop boxes across PSU’s campus:

- Located in all residential halls across campus:
  - Belknap, Pemigewasset, Mary Lyon, Geneva Smith, Grafton, Merrill Place, Langdon Woods
  - *Students living in the non-traditional student apartments (non-trads apartments) and the White Mountain Student Apartments (WMAC) should drop their samples off at the Merrill Place or Langdon Woods collection bin.*
- **For Faculty and staff as well as commuter students the following locations will be the best locations for sample drop off:**
  - Welcome Center and Ice Arena, 1st floor (ground level) entrance
  - Herbert H. Lamson Library & Learning Commons (main level near help desk)
  - ALLWell North, 1st Floor (ground level lobby)
  - Hartman Union Building (the HUB), near the fireplace lounge

Where are the tests processed?

Completed tests are sent to The Broad Lab in Cambridge, MA for processing.

Having trouble activating your test kit?

- You can find step-by-step instructions here.
- Please verify that you are entering your email address/ID in letter/number form (i.e. abc1234@plymouth.edu).
- If you still get the error message, “This email or ID is not eligible. Please try again. If you continue to have problems, contact your organization for support,” please email covid19@plymouth.edu so that we can assist you further.
Where can I find the Covid-19 Office? Questions?

The COVID-19 Coordinator is located in Speare 203B.

Drop-in hours include: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9am-4pm and Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am-12pm.

If you have any questions about this information, please email us at covid19@plymouth.edu.