



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

To:	Child Care Providers
From:	Jennifer A. Nizer, M.Ed. Director, Office of Child Care
CC:	Steven R. Hicks, Assistant State Superintendent Louis A. Valenti, Jr., Branch Chief-Licensing All Licensing Staff
Date:	October 4, 2021
Re:	COVID Diagnostic Testing and/or the Screening Testing in licensed child care facilities (Center, Family, Large family, and Letters of Compliance).

Licensed child care facilities in the state of Maryland interested in receiving information on COVID-19 Testing should contact their [local health department](#) for more information on testing resources that may be available.

For additional information on COVID-19 testing and resources for child care facilities please see below:

Operation Expanded Testing - <https://www.affinitytesting.com/hhs/>

MDH School Resources - <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/school-resources#Resources>

CDC guidance for Child Care Programs - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/child-care-guidance.html>

Please Note: The use of Non-Prescription Tests (home collection/at-home tests) **are not approved** for use in licensed child care facilities. The testing kits purchased at a pharmacy (over-the-counter) or online or “direct-to-consumer” (DTC) or for self- testing purposes should not be used in the child care facility for children or families enrolled in licensed child care programs.

The COVID-19 testing and prevention strategies remain critical in protecting everyone. All child care programs should continue to work with local and state health departments to determine the layered prevention strategies needed to protect students, teachers, and staff.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children safe and healthy.