

August 2024 Updates and Reminders for Maryland Schools

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) have written the following reminders and updates as students return to the school.

Infection Prevention and Control

MDH and MSDE endorse CDC's guidance for [Preventing Spread of Infections in K-12 Schools](#). This guidance is designed to maximize school attendance and its benefits for all students, while also preventing the spread of infectious diseases. In addition, it is aligned with CDC's [Respiratory Virus Guidance](#) which provides recommendations and information to help people lower risk from a range of common respiratory viral illnesses, including COVID-19, flu, and RSV.

COVID-19 Testing

Over the counter (OTC) test kits will be provided by MDH to public and non-public schools and School Based Health Centers upon request for the 2024-2025 school year. All test kits in the state inventory have been extended until 12/31/2024 at the latest. Presently, no plans for future test kit availability have been determined.

Test kits can be ordered via this [Google form](#). Schools can email OPRlogistics.mdh@maryland.gov with questions.

Immunizations

The MDH/MSDE 2024-2025 school immunization letter, immunization decision tree, and other helpful school immunization resources can be found on the MDH website [here](#).