****

**K-12 School COVID Testing Program (Update)**

**2 September 2021**

The K-12 School COVID-19 Testing Program is a voluntary program offered by the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH) in partnership with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) for Kentucky K-12 schools who wish to participate in school-based COVID-19 screening testing for teachers, staff, and students to assist schools in reopening safely for in-person instruction. Laboratory service providers will supply all services and materials necessary to provide a testing service to schools who sign up and agree to the program requirements. **School nurses may assist with logistics, but the burden of testing and notification is on the laboratories. “Test to Stay” is an option for school that want to implement a modified quarantine protocol for students who are exposed to COVID-19 in schools.  This is not currently recommended as a statewide strategy by KDPH, however can be implemented, if certain criteria are met; school needs to coordinate with Local Health Department to ensure all requirements (testing frequency, reporting, and the logistics) are met by the Lab, and the testing capabilities are conducive to the needs of the school, based on each outbreak. “Test to Stay” Model is an option under this program.**

**Address all questions to Jim Alford, Project Manager,** **jalford@ky.gov****, 270-291-2330.** The link below gives details about the program:

**K-12 School COVID Testing Program Website and Lab Marketplace**

[**https://govstatus.egov.com/K-12-kentucky-school-testing-program**](https://govstatus.egov.com/K-12-kentucky-school-testing-program)

**K-12 School COVID Testing Program Office Hours (Q&A Session)**

**Held Every Wednesday from 1pm -1:30pm ET**

(Will go until 215pm if interest and participation requires, please join anytime during)

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83489173852?pwd=UVlvbzZuT1piMy9iMWlXaGk1cy9aUT09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83489173852?pwd=UVlvbzZuT1piMy9iMWlXaGk1cy9aUT09)

Password: 051875

**K-12 School COVID Testing Interest Survey**

[**https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MBW2JVY**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MBW2JVY)

**Please take a moment and complete this survey so we may better serve your needs.**