COVID-19 TESTING
Frequently Asked Questions

What COVID-19 tests are available?

✓ Molecular testing, also referred to as diagnostic, detects the virus and can be used to directly diagnose COVID-19. This test is administered via nasal swabbing.

✓ Antibody testing, commonly known as serology, detects antibodies in the blood when the body is fighting an infection. The test does not detect the actual virus; rather, it identifies the body's immune response. This test is administered via finger-stick or venipuncture.

Where can I go to get tested?*

✓ Many testing sites require a referral from a primary care provider. If you are showing symptoms or believe you have been exposed, consult with your physician to determine testing necessity.

✓ To be tested without a referral, make an appointment with the Florida Department of Health in Marion County by calling (866) 779 – 6121. Starting August 4th, testing will be held at the Livestock Pavilion. Once testing is available at this new location, appointments will not be necessary.

How much does testing cost?**

✓ Florida Blue waives all member cost share affiliated with the molecular testing (nasal swabbing) and treatment of COVID-19.

✓ Florida Blue will cover FDA/Emergency Use Authorization serology (antibody) tests at $0 cost share when the following criteria are met:
  - serology tests are ordered by a licensed health care provider
  - the ordering provider has first performed an individual clinical assessment of the member
  - the ordering provider clearly documents in the medical record the reason for the serology test and how the results will impact clinical decision-making.

Other facilities may offer testing, however, testing procedure and payment process may vary.

No payment is required if testing site is in-network with Florida Blue. Employees covered under the MCPS health insurance can contact Angela Hooper at (352) 622-9124 if they were changed a fee for testing.

Marion County Public Schools

Developing Successful Citizens -- Every Student, Every Day