

# **CHEEKTOWAGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **COVID-10 SURVEILLANCE & PROXIMAL TESTING PROGRAM**

### **Introduction**

As part of our plan to return & keep all of our students PK-12 to full in person learning and in consultation with the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH), our district has partnered with the ECDOH to establish a COVID-19 surveillance testing program. We are offering the opportunity to participate in surveillance testing to all in person students and staff PK-12 using a district based model. Following the current district surveillance testing model, 10% of those who have consented to be tested, will be tested weekly.

### **Purpose**

Routine surveillance testing is a layered mitigation strategy that will assist to further strengthen our approach to reducing the spread of COVID-19. In addition to mitigation strategies like mask wearing, social distancing, hand washing, self-monitoring, and regular deep cleaning, asymptomatic surveillance testing can help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and will help maintain a safer community.

### **Testing Strategy**

The current test that would be administered is Clarifi COVID-19 by Quadrant Biosciences.

**Surveillance testing**, also known as “*pool testing*” is a cost-effective, time efficient, and resource efficient alternative to individual COVID-19 NAAT/PCR testing. For this method, samples are collected and tested together. The testing will be done via a saliva test, with a self-administered swab of the gum/cheek area . If a single person within the pool tests positive, the entire pool is submitted for retesting to identify the positive individual.

**Proximal testing**, is testing of an individual who is outside of the 3 foot range in the same airspace, not considered to be a close contact, is considered a proximal contact. Individuals who are proximal contacts are not subject to quarantine, unless they are symptomatic. Fully vaccinated individuals can participate in testing.

For more information see:

<https://www3.erie.gov/covid/covid-19-proximal-testing-and-surveillance-testing-schools>

### **Target population**

Participation is voluntary. All in person PK-12 students and staff are invited to participate. Individuals who have been vaccinated are invited to participate as well. To sign up, you will need to complete two consents.

ECDOH Consent Form: <https://www3.erie.gov/covid/form/parent-consent-form-for-proximal>

Quadrant Program Consent Form: <https://app.clarifi-covid-19.com/>

**Procedure:**

The district will partner with ECDOH and will utilize Clarifi COVID-19 self administered saliva PCR test. The test is a self-collected oral swab. Each person being tested will be given a swab and they will swab the inside of their cheek while being supervised by a healthcare professional. If a pool returns a positive result, further testing is conducted to determine the positive case.

**Saliva Test Demonstration Video**

<https://vimeo.com/454878606/816cd89be4>

**Fact Sheet for Patients**

[https://f.hubspotusercontent20.net/hubfs/7307728/Quadrant\\_Biosciences\\_June2021/Pdf/Patient-Fact-Sheet-May-6-2021.pdf](https://f.hubspotusercontent20.net/hubfs/7307728/Quadrant_Biosciences_June2021/Pdf/Patient-Fact-Sheet-May-6-2021.pdf)

**Communication**

Once testing is complete, if there are any positive cases, the parent/guardian of the positive individual (if a student) will be contacted and informed. Staff who are identified as a positive case will be contacted and informed. Contact tracing will be conducted for positive results. Positive results will require isolation for positive individuals and quarantine for close contacts who are not vaccinated and /or individuals who are symptomatic, as per the protocols set forth by the ECDOH and the NYSDOH.

***To rescind participation at any time***, access the website of initial consent on ECDOH or email [covidconsent@erie.gov](mailto:covidconsent@erie.gov)

WITH...Name of participation and Date of Birth

