The University of Southern California and the City of Los Angeles are studying the usefulness of rapid antigen testing to help schools to reopen. Here are some Frequently Asked Questions about rapid antigen tests and COVID-19.

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| What is a Rapid Antigen Test?  Rapid antigen tests are not new. They are commonly used to identify respiratory pathogens, including the flu virus. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted emergency use authorization for antigen tests that can identify COVID-19.  A shallow nasal swab (only mid way up nose) is collected and results are ready in approximately 15 minutes. Antigen tests will be administered at Centers at no cost to parents. |

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| Why are we implementing Rapid Antigen Testing?  We are conducting rapid antigen testing to find a safe way for allowing students to go back to in-person education. Rapid antigen testing could be a good way to detect COVID-19 and limit the spread of the virus among students. For this to work, it will require frequent testing each week, although the ideal number of tests to perform each week is still not known. To better understand how often to test children, we will vary the number of tests children receive each week at the different testing sites. |

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| How often will my child be tested?  Depending on the testing schedule assigned to your child, your child may be tested once or twice a week, or receive no additional testing during the pilot. This will help us better understand the ideal testing schedule for rapid antigen tests. |

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| What happens when a child tests positive for COVID-19?  The rapid antigen tests will be given by a staff member when your child arrives. If the test result is positive, the site will notify the parent/guardian and procedures will be put in place to safely return the student home or quarantine the student from others. We will also ask you to complete a confirmatory PCR test. |

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| What are the benefits of participating?  If you decide to participate, your child will be regularly tested for COVID-19 and you will know the results of those tests within 15 minutes. Additionally, your child’s participation in the rapid antigen testing may help scientists understand the best times to test children for COVID-19. The results of this study may also inform Los Angeles County’s plans for safely reopening schools for in-person education. |

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| Does your child have to take part in the rapid antigen testing?  Parents may decide whether or not they would like their child to participate in the rapid antigen testing. If you decide to allow your child to participate in the testing, it should be because you really want your child to participate. You will not lose any services, benefits, or rights you would normally have if you choose not to allow your child to participate. |

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| What if your child tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 90 days?  Per current public health guidelines, the program will not test children who had a positive test result within the last 90 days. |

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| What if you have questions, suggestions or concerns?  If you have questions, suggestions, or concerns regarding the rapid antigen testing, please contact. XXXXXXXXXXX |

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