COVID-19 Testing in Nova Scotia

Testing is available for all symptomatic Nova Scotians. Most Nova Scotians qualify for rapid antigen testing, while those at increased risk of severe illness and certain occupations also qualify for PCR (lab) testing.

PCR Testing

Available for people who have symptoms AND are at higher risk for severe illness. Book an appointment using online self-assessment tool or call 811. Find out if you are eligible for a PCR at **nshealth.ca/coronavirustesting**.

You can access your PCR test results (negative, positive and indeterminate) if you have a valid provincial health card (from any province), student ID or other registration number, in the following ways:

Email	Email results may be received 24 hours a day. Check your "Junk" folder for your test results. Look for an email from noreply@nshealth.ca. It is important to register with the correct email address (double check it when you arrive for your test), it cannot be changed once you have been tested.
Auto-call	If you do not access your email result, you will receive an automated call - often between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. If you are waiting for a test result, keep your phone with you and turned on. The "caller ID" may show as unknown number, unknown name or an unfamiliar out-of-province number. Please answer. The auto-call will try two times.
Online	To access your results online visit **c19results.nshealth.ca**
Phone	You will receive a phone call from Public Health with your results if you do not have a valid provincial health card or we cannot reach you through the other ways listed above.

If Negative
- Stay home if you still have symptoms.
- Follow the instructions at **nshealth.ca/i-have-covid-19-symptoms**

If Positive
- Follow the instructions at **nshealth.ca/testedpositiveforcovid**
- Complete the Report and Support screening form at **c19hc.nshealth.ca/self-report** or call **1-833-797-7772** if you do not have access to the internet or need assistance.

If Indeterminate
- If you have symptoms, you need to book another test: **covid-self-assessment.novascotia.ca/en**

To access test results you will need to enter the last four digits of your health card or ID. Test results are typically available within 1-3 days. If it has been more than 72 hours call Public Health at 1-844-996-0694.

Indeterminate test results means that your last test did not detect a clear positive OR negative result.

It was unable to accurately detect COVID-19. Your result could be indeterminate if:
- You are currently infected with COVID-19 but the test was done too early to detect the virus
- **OR** you were recently infected with COVID-19 and the test is detecting small amounts of non-viable (dead) virus
- **OR** there was a problem with your sample or the test itself.

Rapid Antigen Testing

Available for people who have symptoms but are not at higher-risk for severe illness.

Book an appointment using the online self-assessment tool to pick-up rapid tests at a testing centre.

Pick up rapid tests without an appointment at MLA offices and libraries. Also available at Access NS and Feed Nova Scotia locations for people using their services.

Instructions on how to use rapid tests are available at **nshealth.ca/coronavirus/covid-19-rapid-testing**

Rapid tests should only be used if you have symptoms. Two negative rapid tests taken 48 hours apart is considered negative (not infected).

If you test positive, visit c19hc.nshealth.ca/self-report and compete the Report and Support screening form to help quickly identify people who are eligible for and may benefit from COVID-19 medications. Then visit nshealth.ca/testedpositiveforcovid for information on how to reduce the spread of the virus.

Updated June 24, 2022

If you require COVID-19 testing for travel or work purposes, you'll need to visit a private testing clinic (nshealth.ca/coronavirus-home/i-need-covid-test-travel).

For information visit: nshealth.ca/coronavirustesting

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