



## COVID-19 update

Keeping you informed

Blue Shield of California and Pixel by LabCorp™ are teaming up to offer our members convenient at-home nasal swab kits for COVID-19 testing.

Blue Shield members who are essential workers, as [defined by the California Department of Managed Health Care](#) (DMHC), can order COVID-19 home test kits from Pixel by LabCorp™. Coverage for this essential worker testing does not apply to members enrolled in the following:

- Self-funded or administrative services only (ASO) group plans
- Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplemental plans
- Medi-Cal or MediConnect plans

Eligible members can visit [blueshieldca.com](https://blueshieldca.com) where they will be directed to create an account with LabCorp™ to request a testing kit, after attesting that they are an essential worker as defined by the DMHC.

Once the account is created, and order submitted, the test kits will be delivered via FedEx within 1-2 business days. Instructions for how to collect a specimen, return to LabCorp, and access results are all available on the site, as well as in the delivered test kit.

If eligible, members must order the COVID-19 test kit from the custom Blue Shield page linked above for the test kit to be covered. If an ineligible member orders a test, they will be charged the full, out-of-pocket price of \$119 for a single test kit. Test kits ordered by members directly from LabCorp™ or by other means will not be covered. Cost-shares, based on members' specific plan benefits, will apply for these tests. As a reminder, the federal mandate for no-cost COVID-19 testing applies only when the test is obtained under a provider order.

We have updated our testing resources— [available here](#)—to include the new Pixel by LabCorp™ testing option. These resources are intended to provide guidance on COVID-19 testing and coverage across many scenarios.

**REMINDER:** We understand certain testing companies may solicit COVID-19 testing services, including on-site testing. Testing that does not meet the applicable coverage requirements of the FFCRA/Cares Act (provider-ordered testing based on symptoms exposure) or the DMHC essential worker emergency regulation is not a covered benefit, and Blue Shield would not be responsible for the cost of such testing.

For more information about COVID-19 testing, visit our [resource page for brokers and employers](#).

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