

K-12 COVID-19 TESTING & VACCINE OPTIONS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment was awarded a federal cooperative agreement on April 9, 2021, in the amount of \$87 million. Approximately \$74 million of these funds will go directly to school districts to increase COVID-19 testing in pre-K through 12 schools and school-affiliated summer programs and camps. KDHE will provide project specialists to provide hands-on support for each school district in the development of their budgets and implementation plans.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this funding is to support safe, in-person instruction in schools. A robust COVID-19 testing and vaccine strategy can provide another layer of prevention to protect students, teachers, and staff and slow the spread of COVID-19.

WHAT SHOULD DISTRICTS DO NOW?

Now is the time to start planning! We don't want to be caught off guard like during the 2020-2021 school year when the resources just weren't available to provide testing or vaccine through schools. Planning now is going to help ensure that your students, teachers, staff and community have as normal of a school year as possible.

HOW TO USE THIS PLAN

KDHE has worked with an advisory group of superintendents, teachers, staff, school nurses, coaches and others to design 3 testing plans and 1 vaccine plan for school districts to consider. School districts, or individual schools, can adopt **any or all of the plans and can adopt any or all of the strategies within a plan**. The plans are flexible and can be adapted to meet your needs! We ask that school districts work with their local health departments to ensure that any plans are approved by the local health officer.

In the next few pages you will see individual plans and lists of resources that you can request directly from KDHE or request funding to support. It also includes a simple budget template to help with your planning. Once you submit your proposed plan(s) to KDHE, we will work with you to finalize your budgets.

Contact Sarah Allin with any questions: Sarah.Allin@ks.gov or (816) 400-7167.



TESTING PLAN #1

TEST TO KNOW

GOAL

Provide diagnostic testing for students, teachers and staff

STRATEGY A

Preferably at each school building, or at least at a central location within the district, have platforms available to provide rapid COVID-19, rapid strep and rapid flu testing to students, teachers and staff who become symptomatic during the day.

STRATEGY B

Preferably at each school building, or at least at a central location within the district, have platforms available to provide rapid COVID-19 testing for students, teachers and staff who are potentially exposed to COVID-19 or would like testing for any reason.

STRATEGY C

Provide one-time PCR or antigen testing within three days of the start of school and before returning from each break.



TESTING PLAN #2

TEST TO STAY AND LEARN

GOAL

To keep students healthy and in school learning

STRATEGY A

Test susceptible close contacts daily during their quarantine period and allow them to continue in-person learning if negative. The local health department will determine if symptomatic close contacts may continue in-person learning if negative.

STRATEGY B

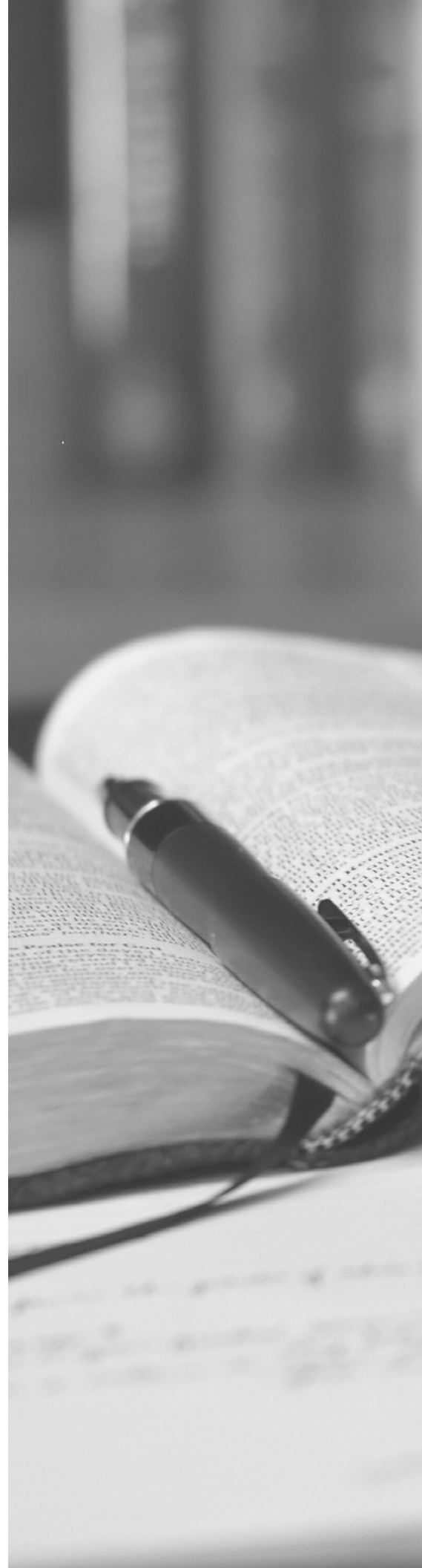
Test susceptible close contacts that are in quarantine to return in-person after a shortened quarantine if negative (test on or after day 6). The local health department will determine if symptomatic close contacts may continue in-person learning if negative.

STRATEGY C

Offer testing for students and staff during outbreaks with ongoing transmission (for example, whole classrooms).

STRATEGY D

In lieu of school-based testing, students could participate in this program by receiving testing elsewhere (e.g., via community testing).



TESTING PLAN #3

TEST TO STAY, PLAY AND PARTICIPATE

GOAL

To ensure that schools can provide the most normal school experience outside of the classroom including participation in extracurricular activities and school-based events with the least amount of disruptions.

STRATEGY A

For weekly activities that primarily take place indoors, test participants twice a week.

- Within this strategy, for an upcoming event (game, meet, performance, etc.), test within one day of the event plus within one day of a practice or other group gathering.
- If there are no events to base weekly testing around, choose two convenient days of the week and test regularly on those days.
- Participants who are being tested regularly as part of another activity may be waived.

STRATEGY B

For weekly activities that primarily take place outdoors, test participants once a week.

- Within this strategy, for an upcoming event (game, meet, performance, etc.), test within one day of the event.
- If there are no events to base weekly testing around, choose a convenient day of the week and test regularly on that day.
- Participants who are being tested regularly as part of another activity may be waived.



TESTING PLAN #3

TEST TO STAY, PLAY AND PARTICIPATE

STRATEGY C

If a susceptible close contact is identified, the close contact may continue to participate in activities in-person if they are tested daily during the quarantine period.

- If the close contact is positive, they will isolate at home.
- If the close contact is negative, they may continue in-person participation. The local health department will determine if symptomatic close contacts may continue in-person learning if negative.

STRATEGY D

If, according to the KDHE School Gating Criteria, your county has a Two Week Cumulative Incidence Rate of >151 new cases (red), test staff and students within one day for one-time events such as school dances, award banquets or ceremonies, graduations, concerts, games, etc.

STRATEGY E

If, according to the KDHE School Gating Criteria, your county has a Two Week Cumulative Incidence Rate of >151 new cases (red), offer community testing for spectators within one day of one-time events such as school dances, award banquets or ceremonies, graduations, concerts, games, etc.

STRATEGY F

In lieu of school-based testing, students could participate in these programs by receiving testing elsewhere (e.g., via community testing).



RESOURCES FOR TESTING

You can either request the resource to be provided by KDHE directly or request funding to purchase the resource yourself.

TESTING SUPPLIES & SUPPORT

- ☐ Platforms for rapid COVID-19 testing, rapid strep testing and rapid flu testing (such as Abbott BinaxNOW or ID Now)
- ☐ Telehealth providers that can provide support and a prescription for antibiotics or antivirals as needed
- ☐ Training on platforms for testing observers/administrators and reporting through LabXchange
- ☐ CLIA certificates of waiver for each school district (if the school district does not already have one) or technical support to add additional platforms to an existing CLIA certificate
- ☐ Access to free supplies and laboratory analysis for PCR or antigen testing for testing before school starts and returning from breaks
- ☐ Access to courier services that pick up at the school building or an administrative building
- ☐ Clinical staff to observe/perform testing, including any staff needed to test after school hours
- ☐ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including masks, gowns, gloves, eye protection, etc.
- ☐ Medical waste disposal
- ☐ Overtime (extra duty) pay to school nurses and support staff to address testing before school starts and returning from breaks, or to support one-time events
- ☐ Administrative staff to help with reporting to KDHE, notification to local health departments, providing parent letters, etc.
- ☐ Vehicles for mobile testing and associated maintenance and fuel
- ☐ Mobile units to bring students to central testing sites
- ☐ Testing totes with PPE and testing supplies that can be taken to event sites



RESOURCES FOR TESTING

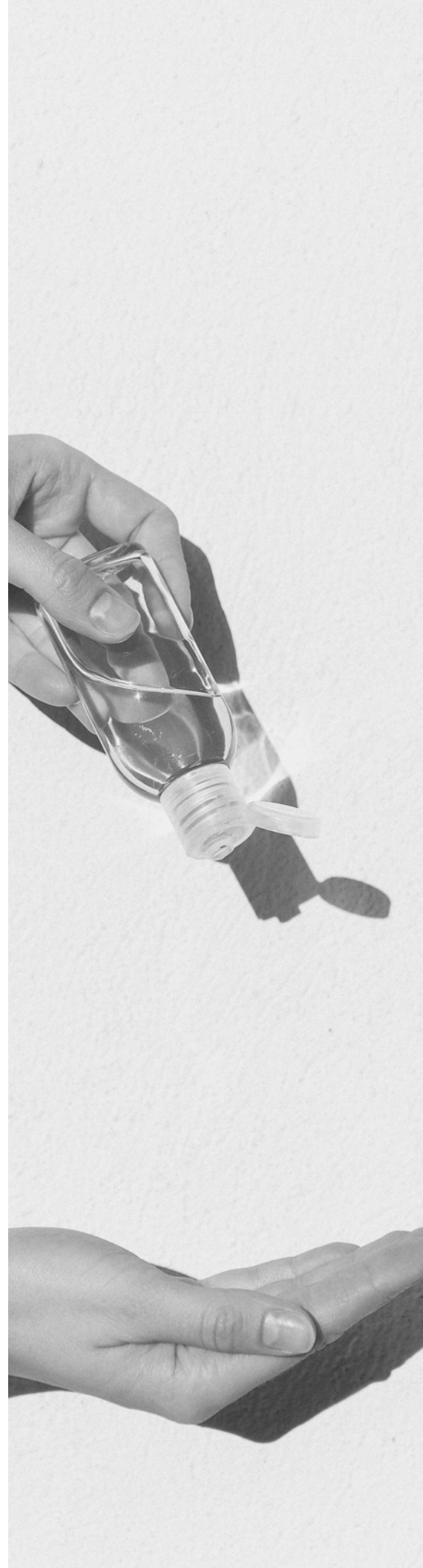
You can either request the resource to be provided by KDHE directly or request funding to purchase the resource yourself.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

- ☐ General education materials and teaching plans for health-related topics that can be adapted by teachers with accompanying teacher development
- ☐ Infrastructure changes or the addition of modular units to accommodate additional testing space, storage for testing materials, isolation area for sick patients, areas with barriers and with proper ventilation/air filtration
- ☐ Upgrading systems to collect parental consent for testing/vaccination and to allow results to be shared with school administration
- ☐ Legal support to develop consent forms for testing
- ☐ Transportation for sick children
- ☐ Office equipment - printers, label refills, computers, monitors, Microsoft Office software, other software, iPads, faxes
- ☐ Incentives for testing (for example, gift cards or school equipment as an incentive for not opting out of a testing plan)

COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH MATERIALS

- ☐ Education materials for students and families on what positive flu, strep or COVID-19 results mean
- ☐ Communications staff
- ☐ Purchase local advertising time and get local media on board to sell idea to parents
- ☐ Toolkit of communication tools that can be adapted by individual school districts
- ☐ Translation services



VACCINE PLAN #1

VACCINATING STUDENTS

GOAL

Get as many eligible individuals vaccinated as quickly as possible.

STRATEGY A

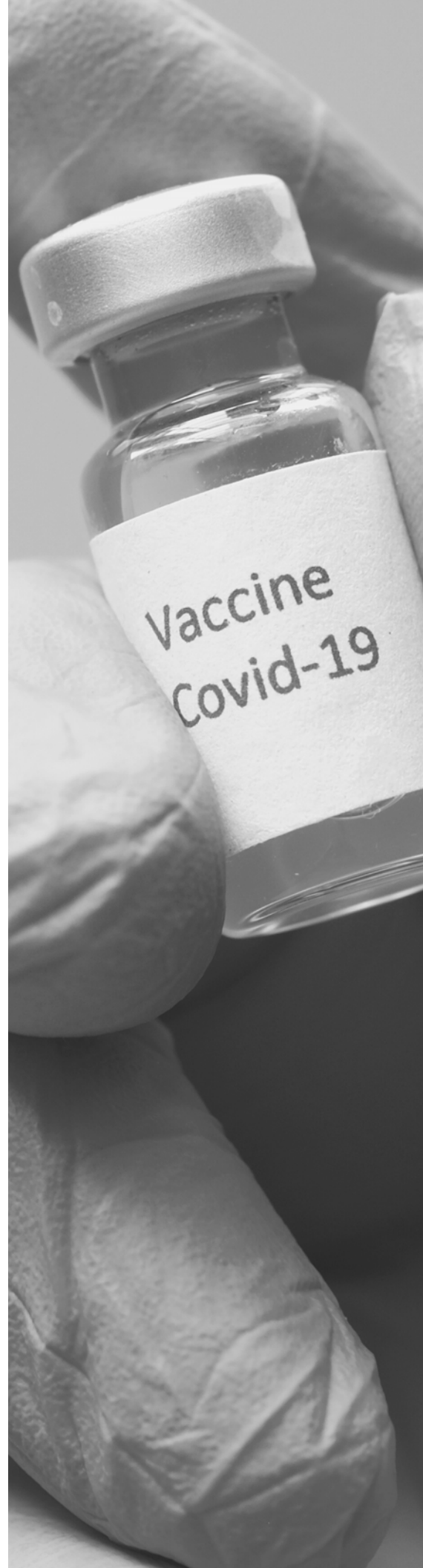
Work with local health department or KDHE to plan school- or district-wide vaccine clinics in schools

STRATEGY B

Use school- or district-wide events, like walk-in enrollments or food pantry distributions, to hold vaccine clinics for 12+.

STRATEGY C

Combine COVID-19 vaccine clinics with other school related vaccines



RESOURCES FOR **VACCINATING**

You can either request the resource to be provided by KDHE directly or request funding to purchase the resource yourself.

- ☐ Vaccine supply
- ☐ Staffing, including nursing staff to administer and prepare vaccine
- ☐ Consent forms, including non-English (if needed)
- ☐ Scheduling system
- ☐ Informational materials about vaccine
- ☐ Communications resources, including social media graphics, posters, etc.
- ☐ Transportation if events take place during the summer or out-of-school events
- ☐ Reporting support/flat file data entry
- ☐ Incentives for vaccinations

