

## **Hilmar Unified School District**

### **COVID-19 Testing Plan**

Per SB 1479, Hilmar Unified School District, after consulting with its local health department regarding any local guidance or best practices from the Safe Schools for All hub, has created a COVID-19 Testing Plan that is consistent with guidance from the CDPH. The testing plan is posted on the district internet website.

Per the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) [COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K–12 Schools to Support Safe In-Person Learning, 2022–2023 School Year](#), testing remains a key mitigation layer to detect and curb transmission of COVID-19. Schools are encouraged to ensure access to COVID-19 testing for students and staff, particularly for vulnerable communities. Schools should review support and resources offered by the [California COVID-19 Testing Task Force](#), as well as those available through healthcare insurers, local, and federal sources.

#### **Recommended Actions:**

1. CDPH recommends that antigen tests be considered the primary option for detecting COVID-19 in schools, compared to PCR tests. For more information, see the [Testing Framework for K–12 Schools](#).
2. Due to the increased travel and social interactions that often occurs during school-breaks, it is recommended that students and staff get tested for COVID-19 prior to returning to school following major breaks (e.g., summer, winter, spring).
3. If [symptoms](#) are concerning for COVID-19, it is strongly recommended that students wear a mask and get tested immediately. Students should also follow [CDPH recommendations](#) for retesting and/or isolating if results are positive.

Hilmar Unified School District will make available rapid antigen tests for detecting COVID-19 in schools.

Additional testing recommendations are referenced in the Guidance for K-12 Schools and the Testing Framework for K-12 Schools (see links above).

This plan shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2026.