

IGI FAST (Free Asymptomatic Saliva Testing)

Community spread of COVID-19 is likely exacerbated by transmission from people who are infected, but don't display any symptoms. Regular testing of these asymptomatic individuals can help to mitigate this spread. As a UC Berkeley employee approved to work on campus during the pandemic, you are invited to participate in a study that provides regular asymptomatic testing using an experimental saliva-based test for COVID-19 on the UC Berkeley campus. For more information and to enroll, see igi-fast.berkeley.edu or contact the study coordinator at igi-fast@berkeley.edu

How do I schedule my tests?

All test scheduling will be done on the study website at igi-fast.berkeley.edu. You will be assigned to a regular testing schedule and will receive emails every two weeks prompting you to schedule your next appointment day, time, and site.

Where will testing happen?

Tent kiosks are being set up around the UC Berkeley campus. Directions to your kiosk will be included in the email and text message confirming your appointment.

What do I need for my appointment?

Appointment barcode - You will receive an email with an appointment barcode. Either print this out or bring it on your phone to present at the testing kiosk.

Campus clearance message - As with all campus activities, you must complete the campus symptom screener before coming to campus. You will be asked to present the clearance message at the testing kiosk. If you do not pass this screener (i.e. you have symptoms), you should not come to a kiosk for testing and instead contact UHS at 510-643-7197.

Eating and drinking - Do not eat or drink anything (even water), do not chew gum, and do not smoke or vape for 30 minutes prior to your appointment.

What will happen at my appointment?

You will present your appointment barcode and campus clearance message to the kiosk personnel. You will be given an OMNigene saliva collection kit that you will spit into and close. You will be instructed to scan the barcode on this kit and sanitize both the kit and your hands with hand sanitizer. You will then hand in your kit, which will be brought to the lab for pPCR-based detection of SARS-CoV-2.

If you are concerned about being able to perform the procedure due to disability or other physical limitations, please contact the study coordinator at igi-fast@berkeley.edu as soon as possible.

How will I get my results?

The test you are getting through this study has not yet received FDA approval for use. Because of this, any positive or inconclusive results must be confirmed by an FDA-approved test. If SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing COVID-19, is detected in your sample or the test result is inconclusive, you will be contacted via both phone call and encrypted email by the study clinician, who will give you this information, recommend that you self-isolate, and provide instructions explaining how to get clinical testing at University Health Services.

If SARS-CoV-2 is not detected in your sample, you will be notified via encrypted email only. Because this test is experimental, we cannot guarantee that an individual with a negative test result is truly negative for SARS-CoV-2. You should take this result with caution, continue to monitor yourself for symptoms, maintain social distancing, wear a mask or face covering any time you are outside or on campus (including inside campus buildings), and complete the campus screening questionnaire before coming to work.

See igi-fast.berkeley.edu/accessing-results for detailed instructions on receiving the encrypted emails. No results from this study will enter into your medical record.