



Connecticut Pipe Trades Health Fund

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February 2022

Over-the-Counter COVID-19 Testing: Fact Sheet

As of January 15, 2022, the CT Pipe Trades Health Fund is required by federal law to cover certain over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 antigen tests for eligible plan participants. This fact sheet provides a summary of the rules currently in effect for reimbursement of these tests. We will provide an update to the rules as additional guidance is released.

Every household in the U.S. is eligible to order four free at-home antigen (not PCR) COVID-19 tests. You can order your free at-home COVID-19 test kits at www.covidtests.gov or call [1-800-232-0233](tel:1-800-232-0233).

What is covered?

You may purchase up to eight OTC COVID-19 antigen tests per covered family member per 30 days. Tests performed at a doctor's office or hospital do not count toward the eight-test maximum for reimbursement.

Note: Tests purchased for employment purposes are not covered. You will be required to sign an affidavit that the tests will be for permitted uses only.

At this time, retiree-only plans are not required to cover COVID-19 tests. Retirees can request a free COVID-19 test at <https://www.covidtests.gov/>.

When will the Plan start covering COVID-19 tests?

Immediately. OTC COVID-19 tests are eligible for reimbursement if purchased on or after January 15, 2022 through the end of the public health emergency.

Where can I purchase a COVID-19 test?

You may purchase OTC COVID-19 tests from a network pharmacy, either in person or online. OTC COVID-19 tests purchased from an out-of-network retailer may also be eligible for reimbursement.

Keep in mind that COVID-19 tests are in high demand right now. The federal government launched COVIDtests.gov, which offers every home in the U.S. four free at-home tests.

How am I reimbursed for a COVID-19 test?

You must submit your receipt for your OTC COVID-19 tests and a claim for reimbursement to the Fund Office for reimbursement. An affidavit that attests permitted testing use is also required

with your test receipt and claim reimbursement form. The affidavit and claim reimbursement forms can be found on the Fund Office website (connecticutpipetrades.com.)

When should I take a COVID-19 test?

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recommends getting tested if:

- You have symptoms of COVID-19, even after vaccination.
- You've been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19, even after vaccination.
- You took part in a high-risk activity that made social distancing more difficult, such as travelling or attending a large gathering.
- You've been asked or instructed to get tested by your doctor or local health department.

Please see the FDA website or consult with your physician concerning when you should take a COVID-19 test.

Are there any local, community resources available?

In addition to the free at-home COVID-19 tests from the federal government, you may find free tests at your local public library, fire station, or public testing site.