ISLESBORO HEALTH CENTER COVID-19 SENTINEL TESTING PROGRAM
Frequently Asked Questions

The Islesboro Health Center is recruiting volunteers to act as sentinels for the early detection of COVID-19 in our community. With early detection, we may be able to quickly stop the virus from spreading. Together we can keep Islesboro healthy!

What is sentinel testing?

Sentinel testing is a system that collects information useful for monitoring trends in diseases and pathogens. For this program, we are serial testing a small sample (80 participants) of our population on Islesboro to determine if the COVID-19 virus is present in our community.

How do I apply to be a volunteer?

Selection is based on your answers to the following questions:

1. Where do you work or volunteer?
2. How many hours a week are you in close contact with Islesboro residents?
   *Close contact is defined as less than 6 feet apart for more than 15 minutes and does not include people you share a home with.

Apply online at https://forms.gle/PK8zgXoryemHuZ2b8

OR email your responses to ihccovidtest@gmail.com

OR call 207-200-4116 to apply over the phone

Is there a cost?

Testing is free.

Is this confidential?

Yes. Participation is confidential. Your personal health information is protected by the same privacy practices in place at the Islesboro Health Center.

How long will this last?

We currently have funding to run the program for six months. We may ask for your participation for the entire six months. Or, at any point in the program, we may change the frequency of testing or the number of volunteers.

Can I withdraw from the testing program at any time?

Yes. Participation is voluntary. You can opt-out at any time.

What is the process for testing?

Volunteer participants will be scheduled on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning, every other week. Volunteers will drive into the tent at the Health Center parking lot at their scheduled time. A nurse will take the volunteer's temperature, ask if they are having any symptoms, and collect a specimen by swabbing the inside of their nose. The entire process should take no more than five minutes.

What if I have more questions?

You can email questions to ihccovidtest@gmail.com or call 207-200-4116 to speak with a nurse. Office hours are Monday 9 am -12 pm. Messages are checked daily and calls will be returned throughout the week.