COVID-19 Testing FAQ

Q: Why did I receive a letter from the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) saying that I have failed to comply with COVID-19 Testing Program?

A: Students are required to complete regular testing under PPM 516-31 (Regular Testing Program). Students not meeting this requirement may be referred to OSC for administrative resolution. For more information, please review UC San Diego's Regular Testing Program.

Q: Once I complete testing, will OSC be notified automatically?

A: No; Student accounts are only updated once a result is posted to MyChart. Per the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, OSC cannot access your confidential health records and will not be notified of newly completed tests. You will need to provide proof of testing to our office.

Q: I am not currently living on campus, do I still need to get tested?

A: If you are not currently living on campus, you are not subject to the COVID-19 Regular Testing program. However, if you are still maintaining a lease with University-operated housing, you must notify the University of any extended absence from campus so as not to be referred to OSC for testing non-compliance. Please ensure you notify the University by completing the following form: COVID-19 Testing Exception Request.

Q: What if I do not complete regular testing?

A: Unless granted a special exemption, students who are on-campus must complete regular testing. Students found to be non-compliant with the COVID-19 Regular Testing Program will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for administrative resolution.

Q: What if I am exempt from regular testing?

A: Medical exemptions: If you believe you are exempted from this requirement, please ensure your records are up to date with the Office for Students with Disabilities and Student Health Services, and notify us of any pre-approved testing accommodations. Students who are requesting to be exempt from testing due to a disability should email the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) at osd@ucsd.edu and write "Covid testing exemption request" in the subject line. An interactive process appointment will be scheduled, and the student can share during the meeting how COVID testing impacts their disability. Additional documentation may be requested before OSD approves the exemption.

Other Exemptions: Students who test positive for COVID-19 are not required to complete regular testing for the next 90 days. If this applies to you, please let us know so that we may update our records accordingly. Additional documentation may be requested.
Q: What if I get a test outside of UC San Diego to fulfill my requirement?

A: Students who complete a COVID-19 test outside of UC San Diego, must email studenthealth@health.ucsd.edu and attach their result as well as PID to ensure correct attribution. Your result will be added to your student health chart.

Q: What is UC San Diego’s plan for students who refuse to leave their apartment/suite when requested to by residential life staff for deep cleaning following an exposure or positive COVID test of a suite/apartment-mate?

A: Students would be referred to OSC for processing through the student conduct process (failure to comply and health & safety). They would also likely be subject to housing contract consequences through their residential life office (potential three-day notice to cure or quit).

Q: I thought I completed a test. Why do your records say otherwise?

A: Students completing testing through UC San Diego Health will see their results automatically updated in MyChart within a couple of days of testing. If you completed testing on or around the date of the notice you received, your record may not have reflected your newest test yet. Please promptly send us your proof of testing once available so that we may update your record.

If you are experiencing network-related issues with Self-Administered Testing, please ensure you are maintaining a WiFi connection with UCSD Protected Network for the duration of your scan if using your phone, or use the iPad provided at the testing station. If you continue to experience issues, please contact Education Technology Notices to troubleshoot.

Q: Do I still need to complete regular testing if I have been vaccinated?

A: Fully vaccinated students do not need to test weekly any longer, only if they become symptomatic, but need to continue the daily symptom screening if they are living in University-owned housing/coming to campus for any reason.

For students who are fully vaccinated, please fill out this form to be exempted from the weekly testing requirement. If you have additional questions, contact ucsdtha@ucsd.edu.