

**MANITOBA'S RAPID TEST
SCREENING PROGRAM****Types of Tests Used in the Rapid Test Screening Program**

The two antigen-based rapid tests being used for this program are:

- Abbott PanBio COVID-19 antigen test – provides COVID-19 results within about 20 minutes. The test can be administered by either a nasal swab or the deeper nasopharyngeal swab.
- BD Veritor COVID-19 antigen test – provides COVID-19 results within about 20 minutes. The test is administered using a mid-turbinate swab, which does not go as deep into the nasal cavity as the nasopharyngeal swab.

Red River College Virtual Nasal Swab Training

Red River College is supporting the rapid test asymptomatic screening strategy by offering partner organizations a two-hour virtual training session on anterior nasal swabbing and conducting the rapid test. The course, which was designed in partnership with the province, provides non-health-care providers with the knowledge, practice and tools needed to safely conduct an anterior nasal swab and use an antigen rapid test device.

Rapid Testing Screening Program for 2021 Wildfire Season

The Abbott PanBio rapid antigen test will be used to support regular asymptomatic screening for staff working in the Manitoba Wildfire Service. Because wildfires can occur in remote locations throughout the province, staff move quickly throughout communities to provide immediate support and work out of a number of bases in remote communities. Tests will be administered by trained program staff who have taken the new Red River College virtual training program for the anterior nasal swab.

Client Screening Intake for Addictions Foundation of Manitoba

Beginning April 6, Addictions Foundation of Manitoba residential drug or alcohol treatment sites in Winnipeg began providing antigen rapid tests for COVID-19 as part of their client-intake processes. The BD Veritor antigen rapid test will be administered by nurses working at the site.

Alamos Gold Lynn Lake Mining Operation Workforce Screening Program

The Alamos Gold Lynn Lake project is located in northern Manitoba and consists of two primary sites just east of the town of Lynn Lake. A nurse has been hired to offer workers the BD Veritor antigen rapid test beginning April 6.

Winkler Meats Workforce Screening Program

Winkler Meats is a Canadian meat producer based out of Winkler and distributes products to Western Canada and Ontario. The site will begin offering workers the Abbott PanBio antigen rapid test beginning April 12. Tests will be administered by trained staff who have taken the new Red River College virtual training program for the anterior nasal swab.

Air Canada Workforce Screening Program

Air Canada will begin offering rapid tests to staff using a self-administered nasal swab for the BD Veritor antigen rapid test beginning the end of April. This approach is consistent with other Air Canada programs currently in place in other jurisdictions.

Fast Pass Sites

Manitoba began offering school-based and child-care staff the option of seeking asymptomatic testing at the Fast Pass site at 1066 Nairn Ave. in Winnipeg on March 22. A second Fast Pass site opened April 12 at 485 George Ave. in Winkler. Similar to the Winnipeg Fast Pass site, the Winkler site offers asymptomatic and symptomatic testing for eligible individuals. Fast Pass sites use the Songbird Hyris bCUBE PCR test. More details on Fast Pass sites can be found at www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/testing/rapid-testing.html.