



COVID-19 Rapid Screening Initiative

Free Rapid Screening Test Kits for small and medium-sized Businesses

The Brockville & District Chamber of Commerce and the 1000 Islands Gananoque Chamber of Commerce are working with the the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce as well as the provincial and federal government to help launch the COVID-19 Rapid Screening Initiative.

Through this initiative, the two Chambers will be partnering with the Employment and Education Centre to roll out free rapid tests for small and medium-sized businesses in Brockville, Gananoque, and surrounding area.

FAQ

What is a Rapid Antigen test?

Rapid antigen testing is an additional screening method that can help stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep workplaces open. It is currently administered through a nasopharyngeal swab, combined swabbing of throat and both nares, deep nasal swabbing (both nares) or anterior nasal swabbing (both nares). Organizations can test on-site and get results in about 15 minutes without shipping to a lab.

Who can preform the tests?

Rapid antigen tests can be performed by a health professional (both regulated and unregulated) or trained individuals. The Ministry of Health has also provided a clinical endorsement for voluntary self-swabbing under the supervision of a trained individual. An individual is considered trained once they have watched the *Self-Collection for COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Testing* training video.

Who Is eligible for this initiative?

Any small or medium business with 150 employees or fewer that is permitted to open under the Reopening Ontario Act and where individuals must be physically present on site may be eligible to participate in the program.

Why should I participate in this initiative?

A key benefit of participating in the Provincial Antigen Screening Program is that rapid, on-site antigen screening may facilitate the identification of an individual infected with COVID-19 in the workplace that regular screening protocols (e.g., symptom screening) might otherwise miss.

How do I apply for a test kit?

Review and submit a signed copy of the Antigen Screening Program Agreement/Commitment form and submit the completed document to:

pjrobertson@brockvillechamber.com

then place your order on:

<https://www.brockvillechamber.com/covid-19.php>

Where do I pick up the test kits?

The pick up location for the rapid screening test kits is the Employment and Education Centre located at 105 Strowger Blvd.

Please do not come at any time outside of your selected pick up time. If you need to reschedule after booking, you can do so at the confirmation e-mail. The Chamber will notify you by email when your pick up time will be. Pick Up times - Monday to Thursday 9:30am to 11am - each pick up time will be 10 mins apart and scheduled for each business for safety.

I have the test kit; what do I do now?

Before you start implementing the Rapid Antigen Screening Tests, you will be required to do the following:

- Hire/train staff to perform tests.
- Continue to adhere to COVID-19 prevention and control measures to reduce the risk of infection.
- Prepare to submit a small amount of de-identified screening data on a weekly basis.

What do I have to report?

The following information will be required from participating organizations:

- The type of rapid test used.
- Number of rapid antigen tests used.
- Number of invalid rapid antigen test results.
- Number of individuals who tested positive with a rapid antigen test.
- Number of individuals who tested negative with a rapid antigen test

What do I do if an individual tests positive?

1. Confirm the result - Get tested with a PCR test as soon as possible at a local COVID-19 assessment centre.
2. Self-isolate - Go home immediately and self-isolate at home until you receive your confirmatory test result. If your confirmatory test is positive, you will need to continue self-isolating, and your local public health unit will be in contact with you.
3. Safely return to work - You need to receive a negative result from a confirmatory test at an assessment centre before returning to work. If you do not get a confirmatory test, you should remain self-isolated until 10 days have passed since your positive antigen test result.

How do I dispose of waste from the tests?

Take appropriate biosafety precautions when disposing of rapid test kit waste in accordance with the manufacturer's label to ensure the safety of the individual being tested and the individual conducting the test.

The Chamber will provide the business with a biohazard bag to dispose of the used test units for easy transportation to the drop off centre.