



Date: August 27, 2020

To: COA students, staff, faculty, and parents:

Re: COVID-19 start-of-term testing schedule

As you know, COVID-19 testing is an important part of our plan to safely reopen campus and have a productive fall term. In our plan, every member of our community who plans to be on campus for any reason will need to participate in our testing program: two tests at the start of the term for everyone, followed by weekly surveillance testing of a portion of the community to monitor the ongoing public health of our campus program.

Please read the information below carefully to understand when you are scheduled to be tested. Please do your best to be available on your test date, as there is limited flexibility with our testing partner, The Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. Staffing for our testing tents and numbers we have already submitted to Broad, based on our understanding of students' plans for the fall, limit our ability to change our capacity on scheduled test days.

Start-of-year testing schedule:

All tests are in the big tent on the front lawn

- First test for **newly arriving international students and for students in Reuben Hudson's monster course** will be on **Friday, Sept. 4, from 9-10am**
- First test for **all other new students and for returning students living on-campus** will be on **Sunday, Sept. 6, from 2-5pm**
- First test for **all other returning students, faculty, and staff** will be on **Tuesday, Sept. 8, from 12:30-5:30pm**
- Second test for all new students and campus residents will be on Friday, Sept. 11, from 8-9am and then again from 10:30am-12pm
- Second test for all other returning students, faculty, and staff will be on Monday, Sept. 14, from 12-5pm
- A back up test date for second tests for people who are unable to make their earlier scheduled test date will be on Friday, Sept. 18, from 8am-12 pm. Please keep in mind, we must maintain a window of time between a person's first and second test for our testing plan to be most effective and we need to ensure that the minimum number of days has passed since arrival in Bar Harbor before a second test will be most effective for those who have travelled to be here.

Restricted from campus until negative test results are returned:

As a reminder: If you do not live on campus, **you will not be allowed on campus** (except to complete a COVID-19 test) **until after your first campus-based test result has come back from the lab.** No one will not be allowed to attend classes or circulate on campus for other purposes until after you have received a negative test result through campus testing.



Minimizing congregation at the test collection site:

There will be at least three separate entrances for test collection in the big tent to minimize the number of people in line at any given time. People will be asked to choose one of several 30-minute windows during testing hours to schedule their tests. The people scheduled in a testing window will be divided between the three entrances to limit congregation at each entrance (15 people in each line for each window). Our first tests on campus have shown that most people are through the entire process in under five minutes from arriving at test registration.

High-risk persons:

There will be limited space available on the 4th, 6th, 8th, and 14th for an earlier testing time for those who are at high risk. Please contact COA COVID-19 Coordinator Deb DeForest at covid19coordinator@coa.edu if you need to be included in this testing group.

Test collection process:

The test collection process is very simple and pain free. In order to understand what the process will be like, [please watch this short video](#) outlining the steps for self-administering the swab to collect a sample. Being prepared will best help you move through the testing quickly. The process will also be explained on site.

Additional information about the test:

Attached to this email you will also find the patient fact sheet for the [SARS-CoV-2 Real-time Reverse Transcriptase \(RT\)-PCR Diagnostic Assay](#)—the test we are doing. This fact sheet was developed in March of this year and so was written at a time most testing was for those experiencing symptoms. Therefore some of the information is not applicable as we are doing asymptomatic testing, but the information about the test is still accurate. This fact sheet was provided to us by the Broad to distribute as part of our testing information and consent process.

Consent to testing:

In order to be tested, you will need to complete a consent form. The forms for COA employees and students were sent via email, along with all of this information, on August 26. You can either bring a signed copy with you or you can complete one at the test collection site. We need physical signatures for this process, so please do not return an electronic signature in advance, as you will have to complete another form if you do so. Bringing a signed form with you will speed up the process. If you are under the age of 18, you will be receiving an email so that we can coordinate getting consent from you and from your parent or guardian in advance. Once you have completed a paper consent form, all subsequent consent can be gathered verbally at test registration on the day of testing.

Scheduling a test:

We will be using the CoVerified app and web-based platform for test scheduling. The app is a new product designed specifically for the Broad Institute testing and you will receive a separate



communication about how to download it onto your phone or computer. We will notify you as soon as the windows for scheduling time slots on particular test dates are open. That communication will also include information about how to use CoVerified to schedule your test. Selective times for high-risk persons will be scheduled manually through the COVID-19 coordinator, and not through the app.

Notification of test results:

Notification of negative tests results will be sent to you through CoVerified. Positive test results will be sent to the COA COVID-19 Health Team, who will reach out to you individually to ensure you get medical care if necessary and that plans for isolation are implemented. The team will also implement our protocols, including preventative quarantine and notification of close contacts, to best ensure safety of the community as a whole and mitigate virus spread.

Thank you in advance for your participation in our testing program. Please email COA COVID-19 Coordinator Deb DeForest at covid19coordinator@coa.edu with any questions you may have.