

COVID Testing – Long-haul and day-trip truck drivers

Who can be tested?

An initial phase COVID-19 testing for commercial transportation operators is available to New Brunswick resident commercial truck drivers who are:

- long-haul drivers who drive outside Atlantic Canada (NB, NS, PE and NL), but whose travel either begins or ends in New Brunswick; or
- day-trippers whose daily trip begins and ends in New Brunswick but takes them outside Atlantic Canada to Maine, Quebec, etc.

Drivers can access a test at a Regional Health Authority (RHA) Assessment centre or an approved point of care testing (POCT) centre, as they become available.

Frequency:

Drivers should be tested weekly or at the earliest opportunity upon re-entry to New Brunswick after a long-haul trip lasting longer than one week.

How to get tested:

To arrange for a test, complete the questionnaire online. Visit for English: www.gnb.ca/gettestedcovid19 for French: www.gnb.ca/faitesvoustestercovid19 and follow the instructions to submit your request. Select the Commercial Transportation option. If a driver is unable to use the online form, **call 811** when in New Brunswick to request a test. If outside New Brunswick and when online is not possible, a test can be requested by calling **1-877-795-3773**.

Once a request for a test has been submitted, the assessment centre will call the driver to book an appointment. The assessment centre will make 3 attempts to contact. The driver should tell the caller at which assessment centre location they would like to be scheduled.

To get the test result online, a code for MyHealthNB will be provided at an RHA assessment centre. Results will be provided at the time of testing at a POCT pharmacy testing site.

Please note that Tele-Care 811 can not schedule your test, as they do not have access to RHA assessment centre booking systems and can not access test results.

Future testing options:

Additional POCT locations will begin offering testing for COVID-19 within the coming weeks.

A listing of all testing facilities is available online and can be provided to the drivers, companies and associations. See: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/8eeb9a2052d641c996dba5de8f25a8aa>

Point of Care Testing:

As they become available in communities around NB, commercial drivers that access point of care COVID-19 rapid screening tests will receive results available within 15-20 minutes. If the driver tests negative, they will leave the testing centre with an authenticated test result (paper or electronic) and are not required to self-isolate.

If the driver tests positive, the driver will be sent home under an order to self-isolate to await a call for a scheduled diagnostic confirmatory test. The POCT location will be responsible to submit a referral for a test to be completed at an RHA Assessment Centre for a standard, PCR diagnostic COVID-19 test (nasopharyngeal).

Roadside Education:

JPS enforcement personnel will continue with education and awareness efforts. Beginning February 22nd, truck drivers in contact with peace officers will be provided information regarding how to access COVID 19 tests.

Locations of testing centres and processes to access testing will be shared directly with truckers and trucking industry

Further Work

Testing sites will be further expanded at multiple locations around New Brunswick to accommodate New Brunswickers who cross borders as part of their daily lives, including truckers.

Health and Justice and Public Safety officials will continue to work with the trucking industry on managing risks from COVID-19.

This testing regime may be expanded in future to other classes of commercial drivers. Truckers and trucking companies may choose to use other testing resources. Test results from other jurisdictions and private companies are also good and accepted solutions, if:

- the test was performed at a laboratory or testing facility that is operated by a government or is recognized by a government as meeting provincial or international standards organization requirements;
- The test is either a rapid COVID-19 screening test (eg Panbio or Abbott ID test) or PCR diagnostic COVID-19 test (nasopharyngeal); and
- the laboratory test result includes the following data elements:
 - Traveller name and date of birth;
 - Name and civic address of the laboratory/clinic/facility that administered the test;
 - The date on which the test was conducted;
 - The method of test conducted; and
 - The test result (e.g., “negative” or “not detected”)