

# Washington-Idaho Operating Engineers-Employers Health & Security Trust Fund

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Administered by  
Welfare & Pension Administration Service, Inc.

February 18, 2022

## NOTICE REGARDING COVID TESTING

It's now almost two years since the Trust first communicated with you regarding the COVID-19 pandemic - waiving all costs associated with testing for COVID-19. Unfortunately, the pandemic continues and we are again reaching out regarding the importance of testing in mitigating the spread of the virus. Below we describe multiple methods for you to access At-Home Over the Counter (OTC) test kits at no cost.

**At-Home OTC Test Kits available from the Federal Government** - All Americans are now able to request free at-home COVID-19 tests from the federal government. Currently the limit is 4 OTC tests per household.

To request your free OTC Test Kits from the Federal Government, visit [COVIDTests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov). These tests are completely free to order, with tests expected to ship within 7 to 12 days. This website also includes a resource to locate any of the 20,000+ sites nationwide offering no cost antigen and PCR tests to everyone.

**At-Home OTC Test Kits available from Washington State** – Washington state has announced that it, too will offer free tests for residents. The State advises 5 tests will be shipped to your home, free of cost within one to two weeks of placing the order. To request your free OTC Test Kits from Washington state, visit [www.sayyescovidhometest.org](http://www.sayyescovidhometest.org).

**At-Home OTC Test Kits Available from Medicare (Retirees)** – The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services have advised starting in early spring, people with Medicare will be able to go to an eligible pharmacies and other entities that are participating in this initiative to receive over-the-counter COVID-19 tests for free through their Medicare part B coverage. More information about eligible pharmacies and other entities that are participating in this initiative will be available in the early spring.

**At-Home OTC Test Kits covered by the Plan** – The Plan is also complying with recent Federal government guidance requiring insurers, including the Trust's Plan, to cover 100% of the cost at-home OTC COVID-19 tests. This coverage is effective with tests purchased on or after January 15, 2022 through the end of the National Emergency Period, which was recently extended to April 16, 2022. The tests must have been authorized, cleared, or approved by the FDA and do not require a prescription or doctor's order.

Examples of FDA authorized, cleared, or approved OTC COVID-19 Antigen tests include, but are not limited to:

- BINAXNOW COVID-19 AG SELF TEST
- CARESTART COVID19 AG HOME TEST
- ELLUME COVID-19 HOME TEST
- FLOWFLEX COVID-19 AG HOME TEST
- IHEALTH COVID-19 AG RAPID TEST
- QUICKVUE AT-HOME COVID-19 TEST

The Plan will reimburse the cost of 8 tests every 30 days per covered individual in your household. Although tests may be sold in packages containing more than one test, *each test is counted separately*. Please note shipping and handling fees will *not* be reimbursed by the Plan.

The Plan will cover tests purchased for personal use only. Tests purchased for employment purposes and tests which have been (or will be) reimbursed by another source are **not** covered. Any OTC COVID-19 tests purchased and reimbursed by the Plan may not be resold.

At this time, to get reimbursement, you will need to submit a claim form and proof of purchase. To expedite your claim, we ask you to follow these steps:

1. Purchase the tests from any available retailer. OTC at-home tests are being sold at pharmacies as well as other retail outlets, as well as on-line. (if at all possible purchase tests separate from other items you may purchase so you have a clear receipt for the tests)
2. Take a photo or make a copy of the box the test is in, being sure to capture the UPC # and barcode
3. Either download from the Trust website at [www.wa-idengineerstrustfunds.com/wa/](http://www.wa-idengineerstrustfunds.com/wa/), or request from the Trust Office the required claim form
4. Complete the claim form and submit your claim (with receipt and photo):
  - a. by email to [claimstatus@wpas-inc.com](mailto:claimstatus@wpas-inc.com); or
  - b. by a paper claim via ground mail to:

WIOE Health and Security Trust  
Po Box 34567  
Seattle, WA 98124-1567

Please take advantage of the free tests available to you from both the Federal and State governments and feel free to contact the Trust Office at (800) 351-6480, option 1 if you have any questions.

For more information regarding OTC COVID-19 tests, you may be interested in checking out the [Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#) website.

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