University of California, Santa Cruz

Procedure Name: COVID-19 Voluntary Diagnostic Testing Program for Eligible Employees

Effective: June 1, 2020

Summary:
The University of California, Santa Cruz will make available voluntary COVID-19 diagnostic testing for employees in University Police and Student Health Services, as well as employees working in the University’s COVID19 Molecular Diagnostic lab, commencing June 2020. Individual samples will be collected by healthcare professionals from the University’s Student Health Center sent to the UCSC Molecular Diagnostic lab for diagnostic analysis.

Eligibility:
The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has issued guidance to support public health officials, health care providers, and laboratories in determining prioritization of specific groups for testing when testing availability is limited. The guidance on prioritization for testing is being reassessed by CDPH on a weekly basis, and is intended to support sequential expansion of testing availability. Consistent with this guidance, Student Health Services and Police, as well as employees working in the university’s COVID19 Molecular Diagnostic lab, are eligible to participate in this voluntary testing program. As we begin to expand our testing capacity, we will seek to expand into the other prioritization categories mapped out by the CDPH and local health officials.

Process:
In order to be tested, individual employees must opt-in to the voluntary program by providing an informed consent and authorization notice (“Consent Form”). The Consent Form is valid for one year. After an employee completes and submits the Consent Form, they do not need to complete an additional notice in order to be tested again in subsequent months within the initial 12-month period. Employees may obtain a Consent Form from their supervisor or Dr. Elizabeth Miller, Medical Director of the Student Health Center, by email at emiller3@ucsc.edu. Completed Consent Forms should be returned to Dr. Miller. Once the consent form is received, individuals will be contacted via email with details of the date, time, and location for testing. Appointments will be staggered.

Individuals will be notified by the Student Health Center with their results within 48-72 hours.

The Student Health Center and the Molecular Diagnostic lab will send all test results to the Santa Cruz County Department of Public Health, as required per county public health order.
Except as indicated in the Consent Form, the Student Health Center will not further disclose results of an employee’s test, unless the individual employee has authorized such disclosure per their Consent Form.

Note that the University’s emergency response operation coordinator will be notified of any positive test results by Santa Cruz County as part of the county’s ongoing public health contact tracing reporting notification requirements.

For questions, please contact Cindy Delgado, Asst. Director, University Risk Services at cadelgad@ucsc.edu