

PROTECTING YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM CORONAVIRUS

How to get tested

Widespread testing is vital to track and slow the spread of COVID-19.

It is recommended that people with any of the following symptoms get tested for COVID-19:

- fever (or signs of fever, including chills or night sweats)
- runny nose
- cough
- sore/itchy throat
- shortness of breath, or
- loss of taste or smell.

If you become very unwell or have difficulty breathing, call **Triple Zero (000)** and ask for an ambulance.

What does the test involve?

The COVID-19 test involves a healthcare worker taking samples with a swab from your nose and throat. The swabs will be sent away for testing.

To protect themselves when they are in close contact with you, healthcare workers will wear protective equipment, including a facemask and safety goggles.

Where can I be tested?

Some testing sites require bookings to be made, while others provide drive up testing without bookings (see table below).

COVID-19 testing in regional areas will be available in some communities through mobile testing clinics.

To book a test contact the Public Health Hotline: **1800 671 738**.

LOCATION	DATE/TIME	BOOKINGS
Burnie 37 Marine Terrace (Portside)	8:30am–3:30pm daily	No bookings required. Drive through testing.
Devonport East Devonport Recreation Centre (access from John Street)	7:30am–2:30pm daily	No bookings required. Drive through testing.
Hobart	Ongoing	Booking required – call Public Health Hotline: 1800 671 738
Launceston 246–248 Wellington Street	8:30am–3:30pm daily	No bookings required. Drive through testing.

Tasmanian Government COVID-19 Testing Clinics

The Tasmanian Government COVID-19 Testing Clinics provide sample collection (testing) services only. Staff at the clinics do not provide health advice.

Results are usually provided within 48 hours.

These clinics will test children under 18.

These clinics are free, including for people who do not have a Medicare card.

Do you have a disability that might affect you being tested?

Please let your GP or the Public Health Hotline know if you have access difficulties so they can refer you to the most appropriate clinic or arrange an alternative testing process.

Travelling to your testing appointment

It's important to protect others.

If you are being tested because you have symptoms and there is a higher risk of you having COVID-19, please don't travel to the clinic by bus, taxi or ride-sharing service.

People at higher risk of having COVID-19 include:

- a close contact of a confirmed case in the last 14 days
- people who have recently travelled outside Tasmania in the past 14 days
- symptomatic health or aged care workers.

If you don't have your own transport, tell your GP or the Public Health Hotline when you make your appointment and ask for help getting to the testing clinic.

If you are being tested because you have symptoms but are not at higher risk, then it's best to travel by private car but it's OK to travel by public transport (bus, taxis or ride-share etc).

When travelling to get tested:

- if you have one, wear a facemask to protect others
- before leaving home, make sure you and people travelling with you wash their hands well, with soap and water (or alcohol-based hand rub if hands are not visibly dirty)
- maintain physical distancing of at least 1.5m between people
- remember to sneeze or cough into your elbow or a tissue and clean your hands afterwards
- go straight to the GP or testing clinic – don't stop on the way there or back.

Information for Temporary Visa Holders

COVID-19 test information is only used for public health purposes and has no influence on your visa status. The Tasmanian Government's sole concerns are for your health and to prevent COVID-19 from spreading.