

Parkland College COVID Testing FAQ

1. *Do I have to test?*

Answer: Governor Pritzker has issued Executive Order 2021-22 that requires all higher education personnel and students across the state to become vaccinated for COVID-19 or receive weekly COVID-19 testing in order to access any campus facilities. Thus, any student or Parkland educational personnel that has not verified a COVID fully vaccinated status with Parkland and has been cleared by the college to access the facilities under that status (clearance can take up to 10 days after receipt of vaccination information) will be required to show appropriate building access status gained via a negative Shield CU Covid test within the past 7 days. For information on gaining fully vaccinated status and building access through that fully vaccinated status, please see our Reporting of Vaccination Status FAQ.

2. *Where can I test on campus?*

Answer: Free COVID Testing is conducted through SHIELD CU administered by OSF in Building E. This is a saliva-based test. The current hours for this testing site are:

- Mondays 8:30 am -11:30 am,
- Tuesdays 8:30 am – 4 pm (testers should arrive by 3:45 pm so they can be finished by 4),
- Wednesdays 1 pm – 4 pm (testers should arrive by 3:45 pm so they can be finished by 4), and
- Saturdays 10 am – 3 pm.

Testers may park in the B5 parking lot and must enter the building through the E-1 door. This is the only entrance to the testing facilities.

3. *Are there other SHIELD CU sites I can test at?*

Answer: Yes, as part of the SHIELD CU testing program, COVID testing can also be done on the University of Illinois campus at the Campus Recreation Center-East (CRCE). The address for this location is 1102 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801. The hours for the site are:

- Sunday: 10 a.m. — 3 p.m. (Closed for lunch between 11:30 a.m. and Noon.)
- Monday: 1 p.m. — 4 p.m.
- Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m. (Closed for lunch between 11:30 a.m. and Noon.)
- Thursday: 8:30 a.m. — 4 p.m. (Closed for lunch between 11:30 a.m. and Noon.)

4. *Can I test at a site other than a SHIELD CU site?*

Answer: Currently Parkland College is only accepting SHIELD CU testing for facility access clearance. Additional testing options may be added in the future. Updates will be made to this FAQ if additional sites become available.

5. *How often do I need to test?*

Answer: The current requirements are that if you are not fully vaccinated, you must have a weekly (within the last 7 days) COVID negative test, in order to access Parkland facilities.

6. *How long does it take to test?*

Answer: At the collection site, you will be asked to provide a saliva sample. The sample collection only takes a few minutes.

7. *Are there any restrictions that I need to know about before I test?*

Answer: You must refrain from eating, drinking, tooth brushing, mouth washing, gum chewing, and tobacco use for at least one hour before submitting your saliva sample at the test location.

8. *What should I bring with me to test?*

Answer: Download the Safer Community App on your phone before arriving. Use your Parkland email address in registering the app as well. Registration with the app can take up to 1 hour to receive the verification email, so plan accordingly. For directions on downloading the app or setting your Parkland email as your app ID, please see our Safer Community App FAQ. The acceptable phones that are compatible with the app are an Apple iOS-base device or Android device preferably using Android OS 9 and higher.

9. *How long does it take to get my test results?*

Answer: Current processing time has produced results on the Safer Community App between 6-18 hours but the results can take up to 48 hours. Plan your testing schedule accordingly so you will have your results before you need to access Parkland's facilities.

10. *May U of I concurrent or Parkland Pathway students test at U of I?*

Answer: A pathway/concurrent student or a faculty/staff that has access to the University of Illinois Shield Illinois testing program may test through the University's program and present their building access status through the Safer Illinois app.

11. *If I have only online classes, do I need to test?*

Answer: If you never will come to a Parkland facility, no. If you access any Parkland facility to seek academic support, go to the bookstore, see an advisor, or access any support services, you are still subject to the vaccination or testing requirement.

12. *If I am a high school student that needs to come on Parkland's campus for dual credit, dual enrollment, the ECCA program or for another reason, can I test at my high school?*

Answer: For access to Parkland facilities, students need to test through the SHIELD CU program at this point in time. If your high school utilizes the SHIELD CU testing and your weekly testing status can be displayed on the Safer Community app, you can use that to access the Parkland facilities. Otherwise, high school students will need to test at a SHIELD CU site to enter Parkland's facilities.

13. *What do I do if I don't have a smart phone? Can I still test?*

Answer: We currently do not have a process for this in place, but we are working on these options and will have more information in the coming days.

14. *What do I do if I have an internationally registered cell phone and I don't see the Safer Community app in my App Store?*

Answer: We currently do not have a process for this in place, but we are working on these options and will have more information in the coming days.

15. *What are my options if I have classes on-campus and refuse to share vaccination status or test as required?*

Answer: You will not be able to attend an on-campus or hybrid class if you are not vaccinated or are not willing to test as needed.

Email academicexceptions@parkland.edu no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 to receive more information on options which may allow you to continue your coursework or may provide eligibility for withdrawal or for a drop without record and refund. Not all students will be eligible for a refund and a drop without record. An approved drop with no record, or withdrawal, while receiving any financial aid, including CARES funds, may result in a reduction, or cancellation, of financial aid awards.

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