

Federal Government (and some States) to Offer Free At-Home COVID Rapid Tests

By BRSi Compliance

Starting Wednesday, January 19th, Americans will be able to request free rapid COVID tests from the federal government. The website is covidtests.gov.

- Each household will be limited to four free test kits.
- There is no cost for the tests.
- There are no shipping charges.
- The US Postal Service will handle shipping and delivery through first-class mail.
- Tests will be delivered in 7-12 days.
- The delay in delivery will not help someone who needs a test today.

Also, please check with your state health department to see if your state is offering free COVID test kits. Michigan, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Washington are all offering free kits (in addition to the federal government). We expect all other states will soon be offering free test kits too (if they have not already set up a program). Free tests will also be available at some community health centers, rural clinics and federal testing sites.

As previously noted in our BRSi Compliance Alert last Friday, private insurance started covering free home COVID tests as of Saturday, January 15th. However, many insurers have not set up their reimbursement procedures yet. It may be another week until we receive instructions from the Carriers/Administrators. In the meantime, employees should save receipts (and the box covers) of any tests purchased on or after January 15th.

Disclaimer: This Compliance Alert is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to be exhaustive and should not be construed as or substituted for legal or tax advice. Please consult with your legal counsel or tax advisor for further guidance.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact us at info@benefitreview.com

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