

Asymptomatic testing for essential travel

The Nova Scotia Health Authority has a partnership with PRAXES to conduct COVID-19 testing for people who do not have symptoms and require a negative test result for essential travel.

Essential travel includes:

- Urgent, work-related travel that requires a negative COVID-19 test before departure
- Students or migrant workers who require a negative COVID-19 test before returning to their home countries
- Travel to visit a vulnerable, ill or elderly relative, attend a funeral or for other events on compassionate grounds when required by other provinces or countries

Essential travel does **not** include vacations or traveling for business that can be done virtually.

Q&As

How do I book an asymptomatic test for essential travel purposes?

You can submit a request at <https://praxes.ca/covidtest/>. Your request will be reviewed by a clinical team. If you are eligible, you will receive a link to book an appointment online within 24 hours.

Can I do the COVID-19 self-assessment to get an asymptomatic test? Can I call 811 to get this test?

No, you submit your request to <https://praxes.ca/covidtest/>.

How much does it cost?

The test costs \$250 plus HST for individual tests. It costs less for groups if the test samples are obtained in one place by one PRAXES health professional. Payment is required at the time of booking an appointment. This fee is in line with other Canadian provinces.

Where can I get a test?

Testing is available at the PRAXES location in Dartmouth and will be available in other areas across Nova Scotia at a later date.

How long does it take? When will I get my results?

You should contact PRAXES at least 5 days before your travel date. You can expect to receive your test result 36 to 60 hours after your test, although this is subject to volumes being processed by the Nova Scotia Health Authority lab.

How will I get my results?

PRAXES will email you a copy of your lab report that can be printed for proof of testing.

Can I get tested so that I don't have to complete my self-isolation in Nova Scotia?

No, a COVID-19 test does not eliminate the self-isolation requirement for people coming into Nova Scotia from outside Atlantic Canada.

Why don't you offer testing to anyone who wants a COVID-19 test?

We need to focus our testing and our lab capacity on people who have symptoms. Also, a negative test result only means you didn't have COVID-19 at the time when you took the test. You could become infected the next day. We don't want people to get a false sense of security.