



K-12 COVID Testing

in Louisiana Schools

SCHOOL YEAR: FALL 2021 - SPRING 2022

Join us in K-12 COVID-19 Testing

Created in partnership with LDOE and LDH, financed by the CDC, LDH is offering schools COVID-19 testing options supported with funding, resources, educational materials, testing teams and the LDH K-12 Team for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

- ❖ Why is testing important for the 2021-2022 School Year?
- ❖ What is the Louisiana Department of Health offering every single school and school district in the state?
- ❖ What are the THREE options schools may choose from?
- ❖ What are the resources, funding, incentives and materials that LDH is offering schools
- ❖ Who is eligible to participate?
- ❖ What is the incentive program?
- ❖ Timeline
- ❖ How to sign up!

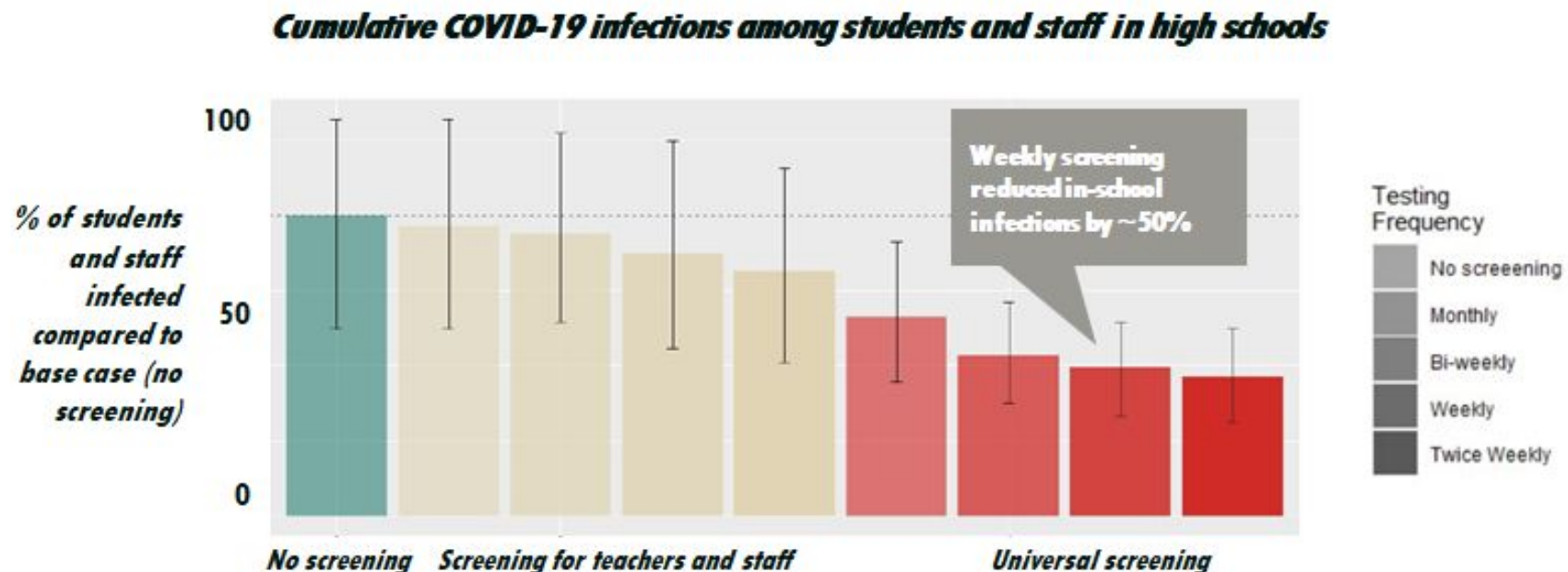
Goal for this presentation today

How can we keep schools open and minimize spread?

Early DETECTION >> Containment
Routine COVID-19 Testing

Need for ongoing testing

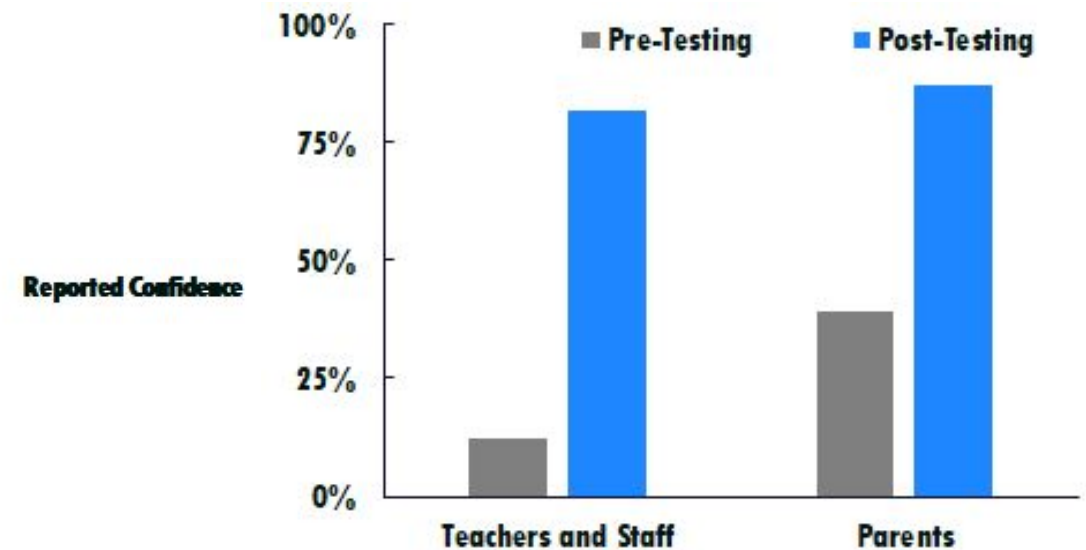
Evidence from Mathematica, supported by The Rockefeller Foundation, found that ***weekly testing*** of all students, teachers and staff can ***reduce in-school infections by an estimated 50%***



Need for ongoing testing

Surveys in public schools report that over **90% of parents, students and staff support testing.**
And 70% more staff/teachers and 48% more parents report feeling confident
in the safety of in-person learning when testing programs are in place

Survey Results (% agree or strongly agree)	Parents	Students	Staff
Testing students, staff and teachers on a regular basis is important to ensure that school can remain open and the WIS community can be as safe as possible	91.8	95.1	92.6
Post-launch: I am open to being part of a pooled testing protocol once or twice a week, with an individual confirmatory test required if the pool is positive	90.3	93.4	98.8



**Under Age 5
children are the
last population
to be eligible
for vaccination**

LDH Offers:

FUNDING

- ❖ Stipends for School Districts
 - Option 1: **\$55k**
 - Option 2: **\$40K**
- ❖ Stipends for Private, Public, Charter Schools
- ❖ Option 1: **\$30k**
- ❖ Option 2: **\$14.5k**

SUPPORT

- ❖ LDH Regional COVID Coordinators
- ❖ Patient Portal and Integrated Reporting Software
- ❖ Communications
- ❖ Testing and Technical Support
- ❖ Trainings

MATERIALS

- ❖ PPE and Testing Materials
- ❖ Testing Team Services
- ❖ Easy-to-use Parental Registration
- ❖ Incentives for Participants

School Districts and Schools can choose:

Option 1: **“The Do It Yourself”**

LDH will fund a
school-run covid testing
program

\$30k

Option 2: **“LDH Makes it Happen”**

LDH will fund an LDH-run
testing program to test
weekly at schools

\$14.5k

Option 3: **“Outbreak Only”**

Schools can opt-out of
weekly testing and can
always call LDH in an
emergency

Option 1: “The Do It Yourself”

School administered rapid testing

LDH provides the Point-of-Care Molecular Testing

- ❖ All materials and training provided by LDH to **School COVID-19 Testing Coordinator**: *CUE test kits, the readers, technology necessary*
- ❖ Specimen collected through an observed self-collected anterior nasal swab
- ❖ PRO-symptomatic students who test and are negative may stay in school
- ❖ School staff uses Color to send registration and consent materials to parents
- ❖ School staff administers participant check-in, sample collection, testing, and recording results
- ❖ Results available in 15 - 20 minutes
- ❖ Results sent to guardians through text or email
- ❖ Goal is to test 20% of school community on a weekly basis
- ❖ LDH to provide \$30k for each school that participates

Option 2: “LDH Makes it Happen”

Schools will work with LDH-provided testing teams who will provide all services

Lab-processed PCR Testing

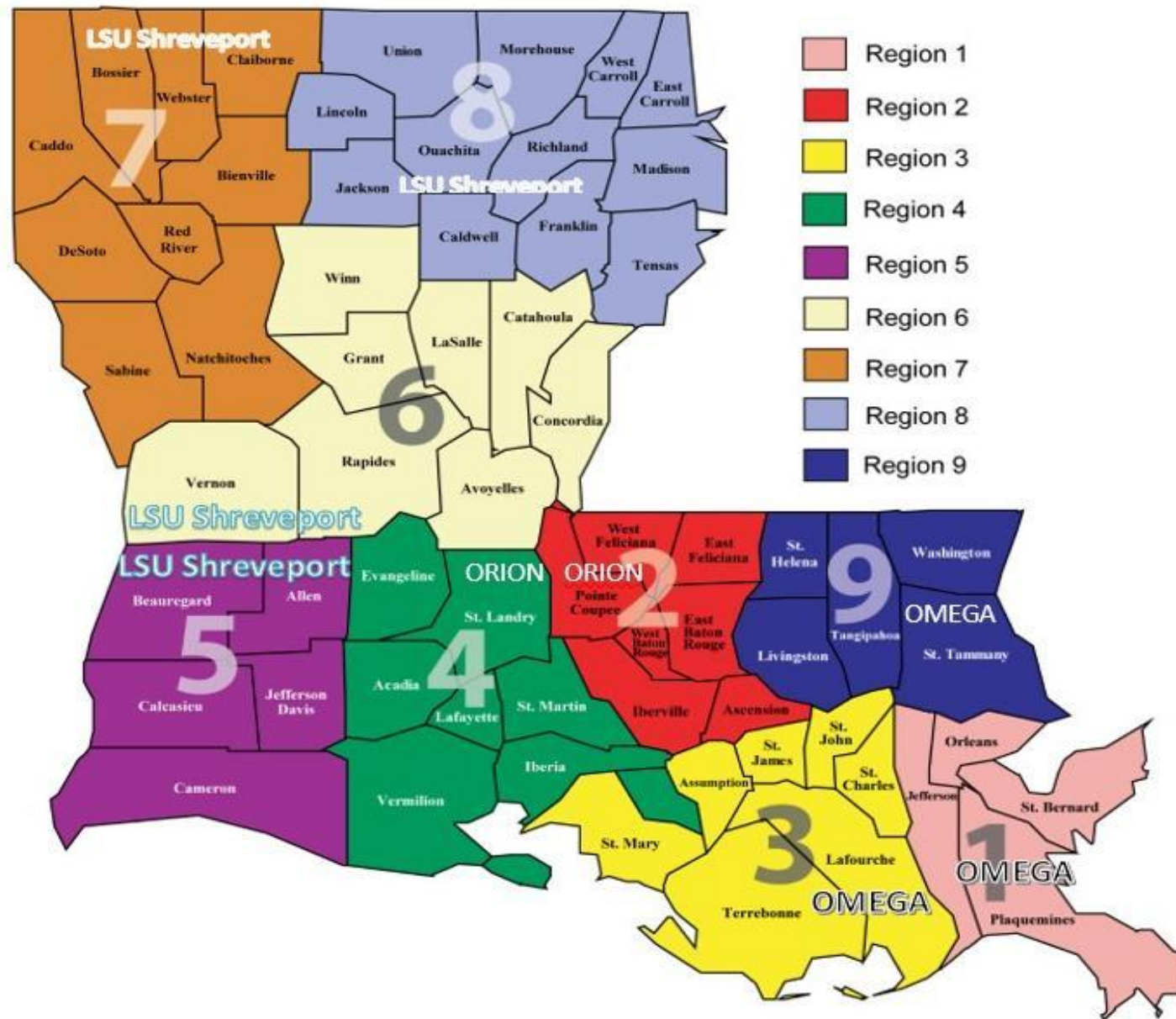
- ❖ School will be paired with Testing Teams
- ❖ Testing teams will coordinate with **School COVID-19 Testing Coordinator** to collect samples on a routine basis
- ❖ The sample will be collected using an observed anterior nasal swab
- ❖ School staff uses Color to send registration and consent materials to parents

Option 2: “LDH Makes it Happen” *(continued)*

Schools will work with LDH-provided testing teams who will provide all services

Lab-processed PCR Testing

- ❖ Testing Team will administer participant check-in, sample collection, testing, and recording results
- ❖ Results available the next day
- ❖ Observed self- collection
- ❖ Goal is to test 20% of school community on a weekly basis
- ❖ LDH to provide \$14.5k for each school that participates



Option 3: “Outbreak Only”

Schools can opt-out of Routine Testing

This is a voluntary program

- ❖ School district or individual school can reach out to LDH in case of suspected outbreak
- ❖ LDH will provide a method for testing with a quick turnaround

Who is eligible to participate?

- ❖ All school districts
- ❖ All public, charter, private schools
- ❖ All teachers, staff, students
- ❖ Athletic teams & school events

All participants will be eligible to participate in an incentive program.

LDH will provide reloadable virtual payments or physical cards to participants.

The payments will occur once per month:

First Test: \$25

Per Weekly Test: \$10

What is the Incentive Program?

Incentives for Students:

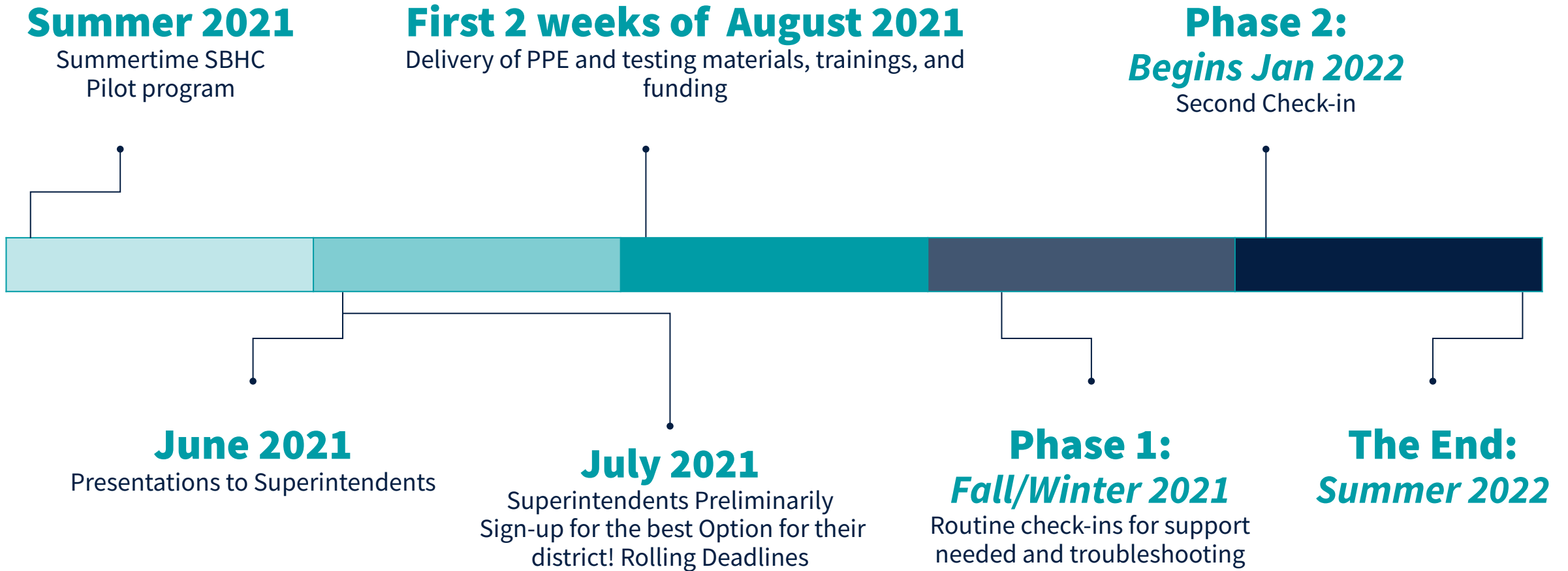
As a part of the initial consent form sent out through the Color platform to parents, there will be a separate consent to participate in the incentive program. Virtual payments can come through email.

Incentives for Staff and Teachers:

Upon registration, there will be a consent form to participate in the incentive program.

What are the Incentives for students and teachers?

Timeline



Sign-up!

Let us know that you're interested or which way you're leaning

**LDH K-12 COVID-19 Testing
Funding and Services:**

www.tinyurl.com/k-12covidtestingla

Questions?

Please email k-12covidtesting@la.gov

