



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!

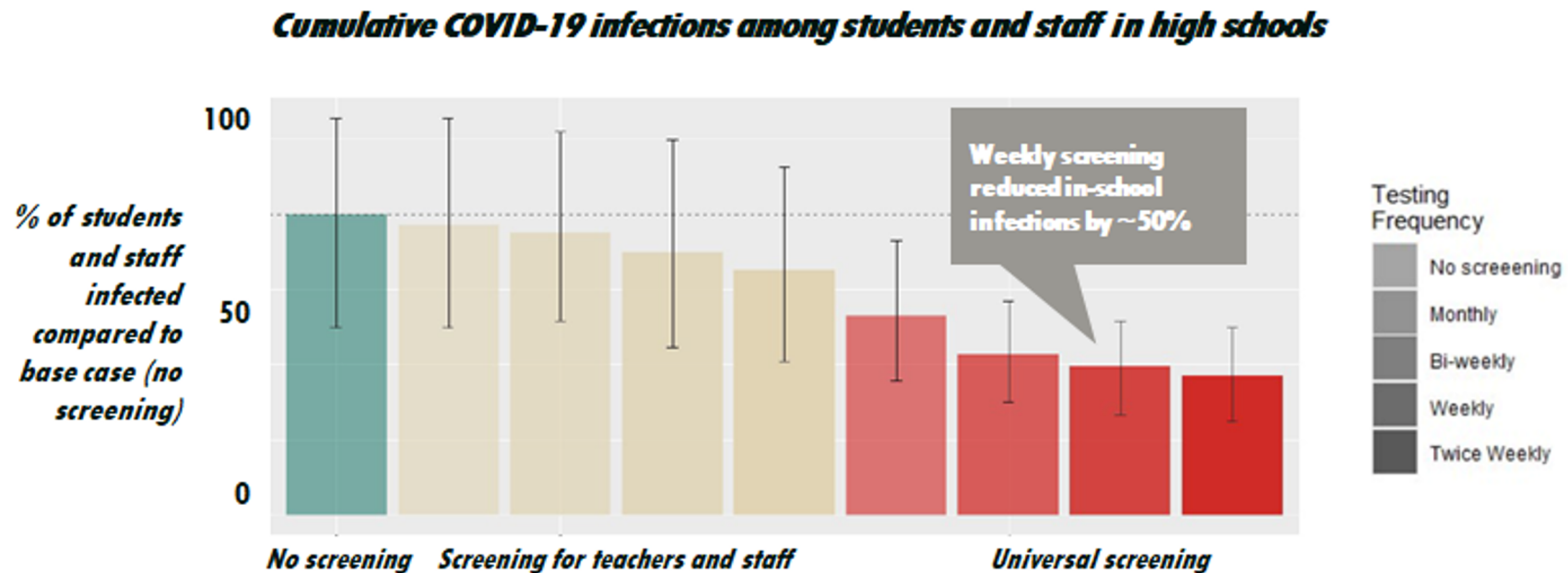
Goal for this presentation today

How can we keep schools open and minimize spread?

Early DETECTION >> Containment
Routine COVID-19 Testing

Need for ongoing testing

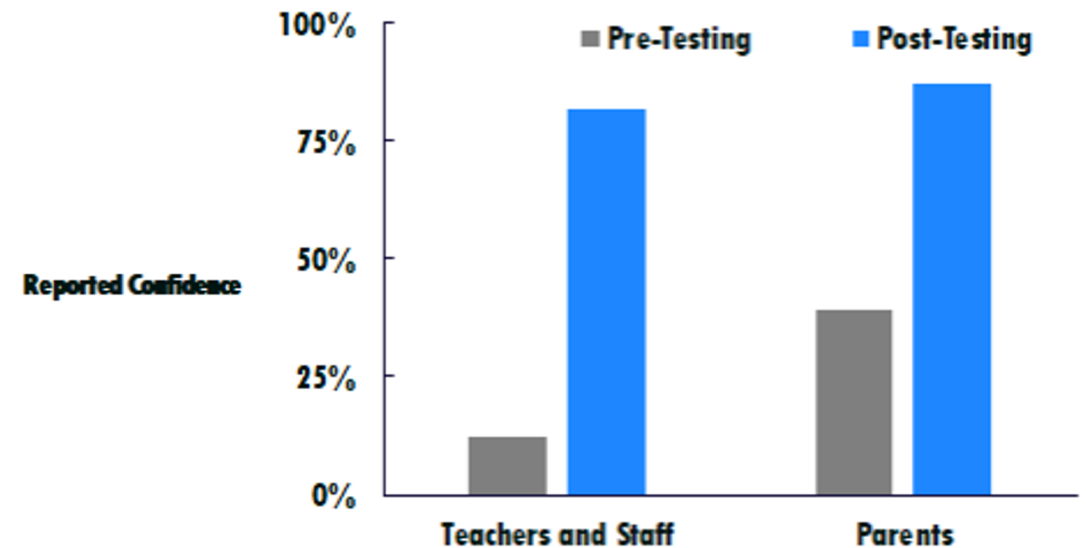
Evidence from Mathematica, supported by The Rockefeller Foundation, found that **weekly testing** of all students, teachers and staff can **reduce in-school infections by an estimated 50%**



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 12
children are the
last population
to be eligible
for vaccination**

LDH Offers:

FUNDING

- ❖ Stipends for School Districts - \$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

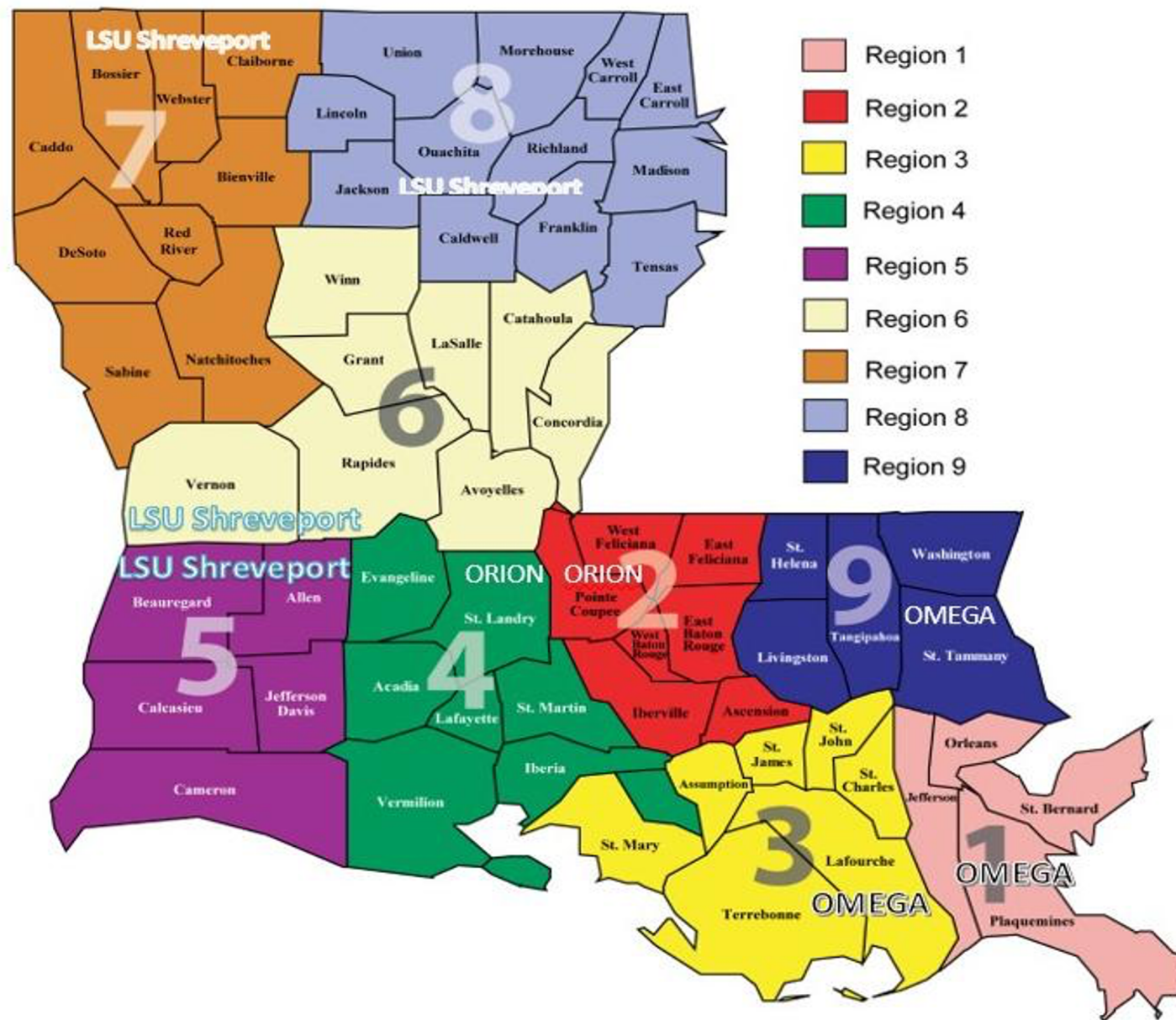
- ❖ School will be paired with Testing Teams
- ❖ Testing teams will coordinate with **School COVID-19 Testing Coordinator** to collect samples on a routine basis
- ❖ The sample will be collected using an observed self-collected oral swab or anterior nasal swab
- ❖ School staff uses Color to send registration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

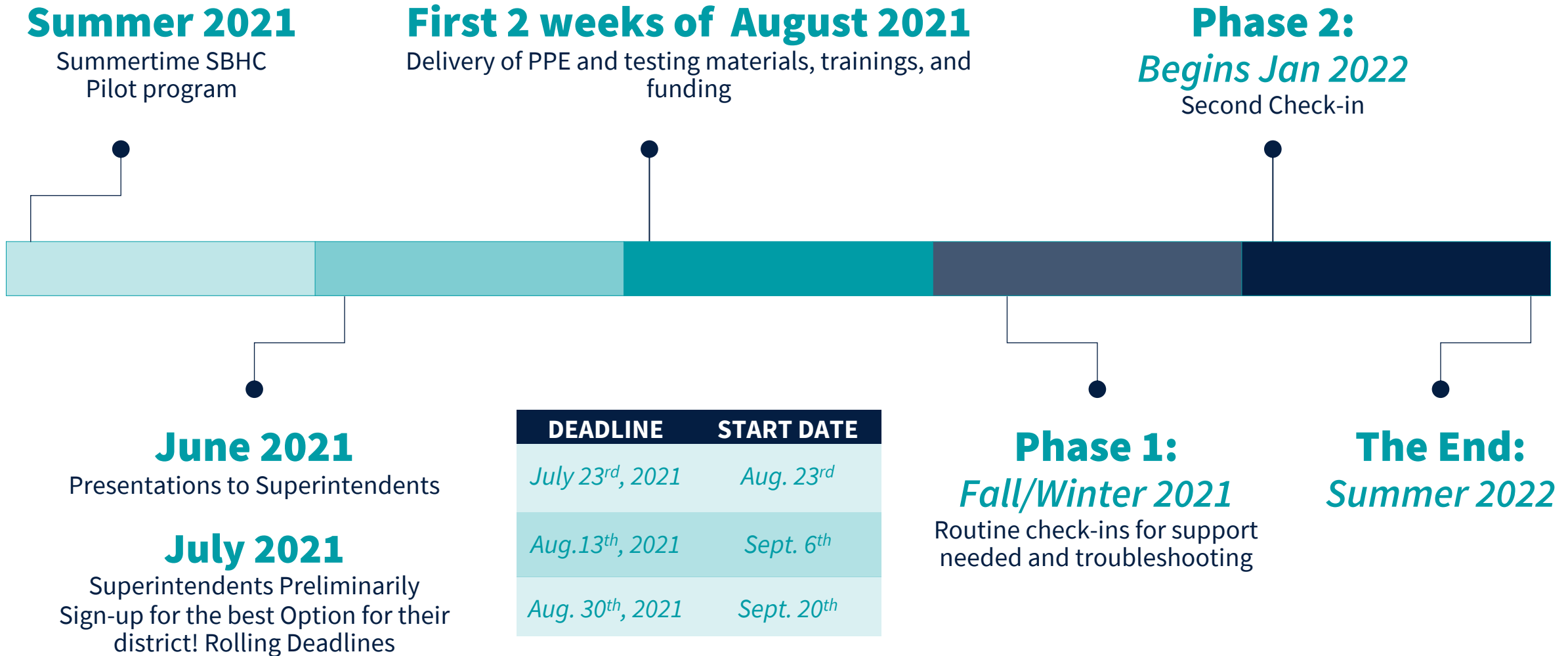
As a part of the initial consent form sent out through the Color platform to parents, there will be a separate consent to participate in the incentive program. Virtual payments can come through email.

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

