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You Can Get COVID-19 Rapid Tests from the Federal Government

To help ensure Americans have tests on hand if a need arises, the Biden Administration is purchasing one billion at-home, rapid COVID-19 tests to give to Americans for free. A half-billion tests will be available for order on January 19th and will be mailed directly to American households.

There will be free tests available for every household, and to promote broad access, the initial program will allow four free tests to be requested per residential address. Starting January 19th, Americans will be able to order their tests online at [.COVIDTests.gov](https://COVIDTests.gov), and tests will typically ship within 7-12 days of ordering.

You can order tests via the US Post Office at <https://special.usps.com/testkits>.

COVID-19 Rapid Tests Available through your Insurance

On Monday, the Administration announced that, starting January 15th, private insurance companies will be required to cover at-home COVID-19 tests. This means:

- Consumers with private health insurance coverage will be able to get these tests for free.
- Insurance companies and health plans are required to cover eight free at-home tests per covered individual per month. That means a family of four, all on the same plan, would be able to get 32 of these tests covered by their health plan per month.
- As part of the requirement, the Administration is strongly incentivizing plans and insurers to allow people to get these tests directly through preferred pharmacies or retailers with no out-of-pocket costs, with the plan or insurer covering the cost upfront, eliminating the need for people to submit reimbursement claims.

For detailed information on self testing, visit your plan's webpage. Information is continually being updated.

Anthem Blue Cross:

<https://www.anthem.com/coronavirus/blog/prevention-and-getting-care/coverage-over-the-counter-kits/>

Kaiser:

<https://healthy.kaiserpermanente.org/southern-california/health-wellness/coronavirus-information/testing>

BlueShield:

https://www.blueshieldca.com/bzca/bsc/wcm/connect/sites/Sites_Content_EN/coronavirus/coverage-testing

HealthNet:

<https://calpers.healthnetcalifornia.com/covid-19-updates.html>

UnitedHealthcare:

<https://www.uhc.com/health-and-wellness/health-topics/covid-19/coverage-and-resources/covid-19-at-home-testing-coverage>