Who should get a COVID testing kit from the vending machine?
The kits are only for UCSF employees and learners who have an active UCSF ID badge and a UCSF email address.

Where will the vending machines be located?
All vending machines are located in the West Bay
- Parnassus Heights - Moffitt Café (M201A) – food vending room
- Mount Zion - Mount Zion Café (A0-18D) – food vending space in dining room
- Mission Bay Hospitals - Shorenstein Family Café (A1651) – entrance vestibule
- Mission Bay – Genentech Hall (GH104) - vending

Is there a charge for getting a testing kit from the vending machine?
No, the kits are free of charge and are only for UCSF employees, learners and vendors with a valid UCSF ID badge.

When should I use these kits to get tested?
You should take a kit if you are concerned about possible exposure to COVID-19 but have no symptoms. Only take a kit if you are asymptomatic (you have no symptoms) and have cleared the daily screener.

Employees with exposure to an individual with confirmed COVID-19 infection should not go to work. Please self-isolate and call the COVID Hotline at 415-514-7328. OHS staff will review the assessment and contact you with testing guidance and instructions. If you cannot easily access the online questionnaire, they can call the COVID Hotline at 415-514-7328.

If I have had COVID, do I need to wait 90 days before using this test?
Yes. If you’ve tested positive for COVID in the past 90 days, you may still have enough virus that the new test will be positive.

Should I take a testing kit if I have one or more of the symptoms listed on the daily screener?
No. Please call the COVID-19 Hotline (415.514.7328). The testing kits in the vending machines are intended for individuals without symptoms.

How often can I get a test from the vending machine?
Everyone with an active UCSF ID Badge can access a kit once a week. The vending machine only dispenses one test to you every seven days.
Please provide instructions for using the vending machine and kits.

1. SCAN your UCSF ID badge for a COLOR test kit
2. ACTIVATE test kit through the online portal using your official UCSF email address. For most, this is @ucsf.edu. For some, this might be your personal email.
3. SWAB SAFELY outside of the building
4. DROP off your sample on the same day you activated your kit at any of the UCSF COLOR drop boxes.
5. For locations and more information please scan the QR code on the poster at the vending machine or visit HERE.

Can UCSF Benioff Children’s Oakland employees access the kits?

Yes, as long as the individual has an active UCSF ID badge. (Note: vending machines are located in the West Bay.)

If I am returning from travel, should I get a kit from the vending machine?

It is not recommended since after return from travel, you will need to take three tests within nine days, and the vending machine only distributes one test every seven days. Please complete the travel survey on the testing portal https://coronavirus.ucsf.edu/testing and bring a confirmation email requesting three test kits to an ATC (Asymptomatic Testing Center). The locations of the ATCs are listed at https://coronavirus.ucsf.edu/testing

Can I take a kit to test someone other than myself?

No. these kits are specifically for UCSF employees and learners. Misuse poses a serious threat to public health and contact tracing efforts.

In fact, the use of another person’s identity to receive medical care violates state and federal law, as well as UC San Francisco policy. Employees and learners who have shared their test kit with others may lose the privilege of self-testing through the vending machines or through the COLOR testing portal and are subject to applicable university disciplinary policies.

How will I get my test results?

Test results will be sent to your UCSF email.

How long will it take to get my test results?

Test results will take 24 to 48 hours.

Can I work while I am waiting for my test results?

Yes, you can come to work while waiting for test results.