

Date: February 17, 2021

To BOCES District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public Schools
Public Schools Administrators
Charter Schools Administrators
Nonpublic Schools Administrators

For Katherine R. DeCaddo

Subject: In-person participation in COVID-19 testing (Amended)

The Department of Health has received information from the field that some schools are beginning to offer in-person COVID-19 testing to students and staff in order to help reduce the spread of the virus.

To clarify, schools are not required to offer COVID-19 testing to students and staff. Schools may choose to offer testing if they believe it is appropriate for their school's health and safety.

Agencies participating in the program shall be deemed by the State

to be in compliance with the

State Department of Health

Guidance for Receipt

and are not affected by this guidance. However, as

indicated above,