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Guidance

# Private providers of coronavirus testing: what you need to know

Updated 22 January 2021

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This publication is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/list-of-private-providers-of-coronavirus-testing/list-of-private-providers-of-coronavirus-testing>

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is aware of these private sector (non-NHS) providers who may be able to conduct tests for the presence of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2).

Providers are listed in alphabetical order. They have declared that they meet the government's minimum standards for providers of Test to Release for international travel

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/testing-to-release-for-international-travel-minimum-standards-for-testing>) or minimum standards for private sector providers of general COVID-19 testing

(<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/self-declare-as-a-private-sector-covid-19-testing-provider>) (the Declaration).

Both lists are continually updated by DHSC as providers declare that they meet the required standards and are reviewed by UKAS.

The government does not endorse or recommend any particular private test provider. Individuals should conduct their own research about available providers, the tests they supply and their locations.

Individuals with coronavirus symptoms should self-isolate immediately and get an NHS Test and Trace test (<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>) to check if they have coronavirus.

## Test to Release for international travel

Read more about Test to Release for international travel (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-test-to-release-for-international-travel>). There are different requirements for this scheme, which means that some providers for the general testing may not meet the minimum standards for Test to Release for international travel.

View the list of providers of Test to Release for international travel

([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/955017/covid-private-testing-providers-test-to-release-220121.csv/preview](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/955017/covid-private-testing-providers-test-to-release-220121.csv/preview))

## General coronavirus testing

Read more about general testing (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-guidance-for-employers>).

View the list of providers for general testing

([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/955018/covid-private-testing-providers-general-testing-220121.csv/preview](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/955018/covid-private-testing-providers-general-testing-220121.csv/preview))

## Prospective testing providers

Making the declaration is a mandatory requirement for providers with effect from 1 January 2021, or before providers begin testing (whichever is later). For providers of the Test to Release for international travel, they must make the declaration before they begin testing.

If you are a private-sector provider who is able to offer testing services that meet the minimum standards, including being applicant with UKAS, you can request to be added to the list of providers by completing the declaration form:

- for providers of test to release for international travel (<https://support-covid-19-testing.dhsc.gov.uk/PrivateSectorSelfDeclaration>)
- for other providers of general testing (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/self-declare-as-a-private-sector-covid-19-testing-provider>)

The lists of providers are kept under review by the Department of Health and Social Care.

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