



## How to avoid extra COVID-19 testing charges

Texans who want a test for COVID-19 can likely avoid unnecessary charges by taking a few steps first. If your doctor requests the test as medically necessary, you should not be charged for it. That is federal law.

### To reduce your chances of facing extra costs:

- \* **Call your primary care doctor before getting tested. Get your doctor's testing order and recommended testing site. The order makes the test possible at no cost to you.**
- \* **Ask the testing site if it has any charges or fees not covered by insurance.**
- \* **Do not authorize non-COVID tests at the same time unless your doctor orders them.**
- \* **Unless it is a medical emergency, avoid hospital or free-standing emergency rooms, which usually charge more.**
- \* **If you aren't paying with insurance, shop around on the web or by phone to compare testing charges and possible add-on fees.**

If you get a bill related to a COVID test, call your health plan to find out why. If you cannot resolve the issue with your plan, call the TDI Help Line at 1-800-252-3439.

If you believe you have been excessively charged, call the Texas Office of the Attorney General at 1-800-621-0508.

For more information on COVID testing in Texas, visit the [Department of State Health Services website](#). For testing sites, including free sites, visit [TX COVID-19 Test Collection Sites](#).

[Sound for media use](#): Ben Gonzalez with the Texas Department of Insurance offers COVID-19 testing tips to help Texans avoid unnecessary charges.

Read the full article on the TDI website [HERE](#).

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