

HOS RULES PERTAINING TO COVID-19 SELF-TESTING

All parts of the process in taking and mailing of the COVID 19 self-testing kits are considered commingled service for HOS purposes. Taking the test after an on-duty period that is not separated from covered service by a qualifying statutory off-duty rest period of 8 or 10 hours or more will be considered time on duty, thus adding to your total time on duty. Employees may spend up to 12 hours performing covered service in a 24-hour period. Employees taking the COVID 19 self-tests must not violate HOS rules and must ensure that they are properly rested for their assignment on the next day.

Q. Can I take the COVID 19 self-testing test when I get home from an assignment?

A. Yes. But it would be considered time on duty for HOS from the start of your assignment and must not be over 12 hours from the start of your assignment.

Example: Your assignment starts at 7am. Your off-duty time 4pm. The test must be completed by 7pm to not violate HOS rules.

Q. Can I take my test on my day off?

A. Yes. As long as you have the proper statutory rest period of 8 or 10 hours or more after your last assignment.

Q. If I have an interim break of 4 hours on my assignment can I take my COVID 19 self-test?

A. No. The process and mailing of the test are considered commingled service which would be time on duty and break your interim rest period.

Q. Can I take my test after working a non-covered flag assignment?

A. Yes. When taking the test after a non-covered flag assignment the time from the start of the flagging assignment until the time that you are done with the test will be considered covered service. Your assignment can not be over 12 hours.

Q. When is the best time to take my COVID 19 self-test, and not have any HOS issues?

A. The best time to take the test without any HOS issues would be after a statutory rest of 8 or 10 hours or more after an assignment.

Q. Does taking the test create an on-duty period?

Example if I'm off and take the test does it count as if I'm starting an assignment?

A. No. taking the test on a rest day after having a statutory rest period will not generate an on-duty period.

Q. What if I violate the HOS while taking my test?

A. Any violation of the HOS for COVID 19 self-testing will be handled like all HOS violations. A photocopy of your TRO-Q must be sent to the Rules Department with the reason for exceeding the HOS must be included on the TRO-Q.