- Schools can become approved to perform testing by obtaining an LSL registration and once approval is granted, request to receive rapid tests from the state and perform testing on their students, faculty, and staff. For schools that do not have an LSL, Local Health Departments (LHDs) are required to allow schools to operate under their LSL for the purposes of conducting weekly testing. If the LHD does not have an operational LSL or is unable to support the school in conducting testing, the LHD must work with the school to identify community partners with an LSL. See Guidance.
- Schools can utilize *pooled testing*. However, pooled testing must be conducted by a laboratory that is approved to conduct <u>diagnostic</u> pooled testing so that individuals receive their test results and they can be reported to the state.

New York State is providing schools through local health departments with rapid test kits upon request. Schools must provide trained personnel, with necessary laboratory permits, to conduct the tests.

Questions on amending or obtaining an LSL and requests for test kits should be sent to Covid19rapidtest@health.ny.gov.

Data and Reporting

Consistent with existing requirements, any testing conducted through schools, in partnership with other health care entities, must also be reported separately through the school dashboard survey and to ECLRS, including all rapid point-of-care testing.

Failure to Meet these Requirements by Schools in Geographic Area Designated as a Red or Orange Zone

Schools that do not meet the reopening requirements set forth in this guidance must remain in remote/distanced learning until such time as the requirements are met.

Reopened schools that fail to comply with these requirements may be subject to Public Health Law Section 16 orders, or other fines and penalties.

Notwithstanding a school's compliance with the testing .004 Tc -0.002 Tw 2.17 0 Td[(b)10 (e s)6 gjET (ng

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