

From: Malsam-Rysdon, Kim <Kim.Malsam-Rysdon@state.sd.us>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 12:04 PM
To: Michael Loesevitz <Michael.Loesevitz@sdlegislature.gov>
Cc: Shawn Bordeaux <Shawn.Bordeaux@sdlegislature.gov>; Ben Jones <Ben.Jones@state.sd.us>
Subject: RE: Requests from State-Tribal Committee

Thank you for sharing these questions. We concur that rapid testing will be helpful to schools responding to COVID-19. The state will be receiving the first shipment of BinaxNOW tests next week. We expect to get regular weekly shipments of these tests to distribute- 260,000 in total. The Department of Education is determining the distribution allocation to schools and the Department of Health will handle logistics of getting the tests to schools. I have copied Secretary Jones for any additional information on distribution of these tests to schools in South Dakota. Please let me know if you have further questions. Thanks,
Kim



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From: Michael Loesevitz <Michael.Loesevitz@sdlegislature.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 10:57 AM
To: Malsam-Rysdon, Kim <Kim.Malsam-Rysdon@state.sd.us>
Cc: Bordeaux, Shawn <Shawn.Bordeaux@sdlegislature.gov>
Subject: [EXT] Requests from State-Tribal Committee

Dear Ms. Malsam-Rysdon:

Representative Shawn Bordeaux, who is chairman of the State-Tribal Relations Committee, requested me to advise you that the committee received testimony at its most recent meeting relative to schools located on reservations in this state struggling to contain the spread of COVID-19 to the point that some schools have felt compelled to transition to distance learning, but distance learning is a poor solution for Native American communities because many students lack the necessary equipment, internet access, or both. Following this testimony, it was proposed that the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus with in-person learning could be substantially mitigated by administering to students the SalivaDirect test for rapid detection that is described at <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-issues-emergency-use-authorization-yale-school-public-health>. As such, the committee has two questions for you at this time, namely:

- 1) Have these tests been made available in this state?
- 2) If yes, can these tests be made available to students on a regular basis?

If you could please e-mail me responses to the above questions at your earliest opportunity, I would appreciate it.

On behalf of the committee, I thank you in advance for your anticipated responses.

Respectfully,

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