

MLS Laboratory Update: MDH Public Health Laboratory Holiday Schedule

December 19, 2024

Purpose of this Message:

To provide you with important information about the Minnesota Department of Health Public Health Laboratory's (MDH-PHL) holiday schedule as well as to provide the FedEx and UPS holiday schedules for facilities that use these carriers to send samples to MDH-PHL.

Action Item:

Please review the following information.

Holiday Schedule for Specimen Delivery and Testing at MDH-PHL:

- **Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day):** MDH-PHL is closed – No staff available to accept deliveries, no testing performed.
- **Wednesday, January 1 (New Year's Day):** MDH-PHL is closed – No staff available to accept deliveries, no testing performed.
- The Newborn Screening on-call genetic counselor will be available at 651-201-3548 throughout the holidays.
- The Infectious Disease on-call line (612-282-3723) will be answered 24/7 throughout the holidays for emergency testing.

Please review the FedEx and UPS schedules carefully to avoid any unnecessary testing delays. Both carriers have modified schedules surrounding both holidays and your facility may need to contact the carrier in advance to schedule a pick-up.

FedEx Information: Facilities that rely on FedEx to send samples to MDH (or to other laboratories) should review the FedEx holiday schedule found at [FedEx Holiday Shipping Schedule \(https://www.fedex.com/en-us/holiday/last-days-to-ship.html\)](https://www.fedex.com/en-us/holiday/last-days-to-ship.html).

There may be a modified pickup schedule for your location on Tuesday, 12/24, and Tuesday, 12/31. **There will be no pickup or delivery of samples on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.**

UPS Information: Facilities that rely on UPS to send samples to MDH (or to other laboratories) should review the UPS holiday schedule found at [UPS Holiday Shipping Schedule \(https://www.ups.com/us/en/support/shipping-support/shipping-services/holiday-shipping-schedule.page\)](https://www.ups.com/us/en/support/shipping-support/shipping-services/holiday-shipping-schedule.page).

UPS Air samples picked up on Tuesday, 12/24, will be delivered Thursday, 12/26. UPS Air samples picked up on Tuesday, 12/31, will be delivered Thursday, 1/2/2025. **There will be no pickup or delivery of samples on Christmas Day (12/25) or New Year's Day (1/1/2025).**

Wishing you a happy and healthy holiday season from all of us at MDH-PHL!

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PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO ALL APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL WITHIN YOUR INSTITUTION AND HEALTH SYSTEM

THE CONTENT OF THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL AND RESPONSE PARTNERS WHO HAVE A NEED TO KNOW THE INFORMATION TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES. IT IS FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. DO NOT DISTRIBUTE BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT GROUPS AS DESCRIBED IN THIS MESSAGE.

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5200.