

# USATF Guidance / FAQ for Elite Athletes, Coaches, Athlete Reps, and Meet Directors on Summer 2020 Track & Field Competitions (v1.0 6/30/20)

What is required to compete or participate: Most events in track & field can be modified to fit the USATF / USOPC “Low Risk” criteria. Examples include every other lane in sprint/hurdle events, individual athlete tarps for HJ/PV, and social distancing measures in the field events. **Events within a track meet that are Low Risk only require the athletes to complete a symptom survey and a temperature check upon entering the stadium.** No COVID-19 testing is required for athletes competing in Low Risk events.

Events that are classified as “Moderate Risk” include all events not run completely in lanes, such as the distance events. Moderate Risk events require competing athletes to complete and test negative on two (2) separate COVID-19 tests, performed at least 24hrs apart, and the first test must be done within seven (7) days of the competition. Athletes must present proof of negative test at the competition before such athlete will be allowed to compete.

Coaches, officials, and meet staff are all considered Low Risk and only need to complete the symptom survey and the temperature check upon entering the stadium. No COVID-19 testing is required. For individuals who meet the CDC “at-risk” criteria, USATF recommends that those individuals not attend or participate in the competition, but it is up to the individual to decide. More information on the requirements for meet participation can be found at <https://www.usatf.org/covid19/logistical-information-and-guidance-for-event-directors-and-local-organizing-committees>

Why two (2) negative tests are required: Two (2) negative COVID-19 tests are required for Moderate Risk event competitors due to the false negative rate associated with current PCR testing procedures. As the two (2) test requirement is the current CDC guideline for athletic competitors, we must follow this procedure.

How athletes in a Moderate Risk event can get tested: Below are three (3) options to consider for COVID-19 testing access.

1. If there are five (5) or more Tier / TPP / designated development athletes all living in one location, and all those athletes can be tested at the same site on days seven (7) and six (6) before the meet, USATF can facilitate testing with a local health care provider. Contact Dr. Robert Chapman at [Robert.Chapman@usatf.org](mailto:Robert.Chapman@usatf.org) at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meet to discuss.
2. Schedule a test online at a CVS or Walgreen’s. Visit either company’s website and complete an eligibility survey. Answer all questions truthfully. With the CVS survey question “have you been instructed by a physician to obtain a COVID-19 test?” you can answer yes, as USATF / USOPC physicians are instructing you to get tested to compete. This alone will get you cleared to schedule an online appointment.

With the Walgreen’s survey question “In the last two weeks, have you had any of the following exposures? (Select all that apply)” one of the options is “Live in or have visited an area where there has been community spread of COVID-19.” Currently, COVID-19 positive tests are increasing in number in nearly every state in the country. Therefore, if you check that box, you will be cleared to schedule an online appointment.

Both CVS and Walgreen’s appointments are scheduled online at drive up facilities. They are available in 39 states (all but AK, ID, MT, ND, SD, WY, IA, WV, MS, DE, VT). **You must be a resident of the state where you are getting tested, and you will have to show proof of residency.** In most locations, you will not be charged for the test. If you are charged, USATF Tier/TPP/designated development athletes can be reimbursed by USATF up to a maximum of \$100 per test for up to six (6) total tests. Submit reimbursements online via the medical reimbursement form in Teamworks.

3. Schedule a test through a local health care provider or utilize community drive-up testing.

Because of the time it can take to receive test results, be sure to obtain the first test seven (7) days before the competition. USATF is not responsible if test results are not received prior to the date of the competition.

Questions: Contact Dr. Robert Chapman at [Robert.Chapman@usatf.org](mailto:Robert.Chapman@usatf.org).