



THE STATE
of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Health

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Section of Laboratories

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Dear Providers,

Due to rising costs for reagents and testing supplies, the state public health labs have increased the number of billable tests. Many of you have already signed a contract (i.e., memorandum of agreement, MOA) for these tests and we appreciate the support. For those that have not signed, please visit our fees-for-service webpage for more information at <https://health.alaska.gov/dph/Labs/Pages/fees-for-service.aspx>. As stated in 7 AAC 80.035 and 7 AAC 145.460, fees are set at 95% of the Alaska Medicaid reimbursement rates, which are significantly lower than those at other reference labs like Quest and LabCorp. This move aims to help cover costs at the state labs while still offering more affordable prices.

Each May we distribute new pricing associated with our MOA. In May 2024, there was an increase in the number of tests included in our fees-for-service structure as compared to previous years.

Table. FY25 Additional Tests Requiring Fees at the Alaska State Public Health Laboratories

Existing Fee Services	Additional Fee Services in FY25
Measles PCR Mumps PCR Herpes 1 and 2 PCR Respiratory Pathogen Panel <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> NAAT	Hepatitis A screening Hepatitis B screening Hepatitis C viral load Herpes 1 and 2 serology Measles, mumps, rubella, and VZV serology <i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> NAAT QuantiFERON Gold (Latent TB screening)

To provide a longer period of notification, we will begin this fiscal year by billing for existing fee services only. Billing for additional fee services will begin January 2025. Although the amount due will only reflect those for existing fees, the invoice you receive will display all of the testing our staff has performed, including new billable tests, so you can anticipate and budget for 2025.

Charging fees for testing is a difficult but necessary decision. While most state-run public health labs charge fees, Alaska has minimized this. Efforts are ongoing to streamline data and reduce overhead to avoid changes to the current MOA structure. We hope that adding time to this notification will assist your facility to budget for future testing activities. If a meeting is needed to discuss your situation or if you have questions, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

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